Bengaluru Friday, August 15, 2025 Pages 24 Vol 78 No 226 ₹7

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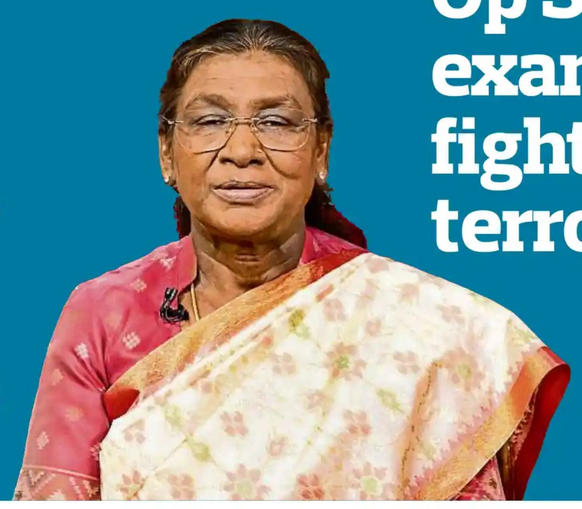

Op Sindoor example in fight against terror: Prez

Page 13

Darshan, co-accused sent to jail as SC cancels bail

Apex court says no one above law, warns jail officials

NEW DELHI/BENGALURU, DHNS

Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa, his friend Pavithra Gowda and three other accused in the sensational Renukaswamy murder case were remanded to judicial custody in Bengaluru's Parappana Agrahara Central Prison on Thursday evening, hours after the Supreme Court cancelled the bail granted to them by the Karnataka High Court.

Bengaluru police formed separate teams to trace the accused following the apex court order and arrested Pavithra (Accused 1), Darshan (A2), Pradoosh S Rao alias Pradoosh (A14), Lakshman M (A12) and Nagaraju R (A11).

The first to be arrested was Pavithra, from her house in RR Nagar, followed by Pradoosh from Girinagar, Lakshman from RPC Layout and Nagaraju from Mysuru.

Darshan was arrested after he arrived at his wife's Hosakerehalli apartment to meet her and their son.

Earlier in the day, while setting aside the bail, the Supreme Court made scathing remarks against jail officials and cautioned them against giving VIP treatment to the accused inside the prison, saying no one is above the law.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan allowed the appeal filed by the Karnataka government against the HC order dated December 13, 2024, and directed the authorities concerned to take immediate custody of the actor and other accused.

▸ Darshan, Page 8A

Darshan being taken to custody. PTI

Pavithra Gowda being arrested. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

SC: Upload list of 65L deleted Bihar voters

Top court tells EC to publicise that voters can furnish Aadhaar

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Election Commission to upload the list of 65 lakh deleted voters' names on a website and cite the reasons for their deletion during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Bihar.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi also said the person whose name was deleted should get an opportunity to appeal and the information on the website should be in a searchable format by the EPIC number.

The court also directed the poll panel to publicise that among the list of 11 documents Aadhaar card can also be furnished by electors. The the EC's notice may say that those who have not submitted may furnish Aadhaar, the court said.

"A fundamental right to know why they are being deleted requires widest possible publicity...in situations where everything being uploaded and publicity through electronic means, particularly to migrant people who are perhaps not staying in Bihar or local area," the court said.

OBSERVATIONS

- Info on website should be in searchable format by EPIC number
- Poll panel should cite reason for deletion of voter's name
- Person whose name was deleted should get opportunity to appeal
- Court points out that it is essential to keep info in public domain

The court pointed out that it is essential to keep the information in the public domain.

Senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, appearing for the EC, said there has been tremendous publicity.

"We do not want citizens to be dependent on political parties' workers," the bench said, as the EC has maintained the list was being shared with political parties.

"It is a fact there are certain departures as you may agree from the statutory rules, from the SOP itself ... a degree of transparency would help to create voter confidence and voter accessible," the bench told EC's counsel. The bench also asked Dwivedi why the EC is not identifying the list of persons who are not there and the reason for their deletion, so that they can take remedial measures within 30 days.

▸ Bihar, Page 8A

FROM THE GROUND
[BIHAR]

Voters race against time in Madhubani

In the dusty border towns of north Bihar's Mithilanchal region, the EC's SIR has been met with anxiety and approval. At border checkpoints, like Jainagar in Madhubani district, Sashastra Seema Bal personnel stop vehicles, check papers and log vehicle numbers, reports Satish Jha.

The once open India–Nepal border is now constantly watched. For many, the document drive is a race against time.

Details on Page 8B

50 dead, 120 hurt as massive cloudburst hits J&K's Kishtwar

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

At least 50 people, including two CISF jawans, were killed and over 120 injured after a massive cloudburst struck Chositi village in Kishtwar district of Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday, unleashing flash floods and large-scale destruction along a popular pilgrimage route, officials said.

More than 200 people were still missing as rescuers battled hostile terrain to reach survivors, they said.

The disaster occurred between 12 noon and 1 pm, when torrential rain pounded Chositi — the last motorable point before the Machail Mata shrine — sending a large mass of floodwater, rocks and debris cascading through the narrow valley.

The annual Machail Mata Yatra has been suspended indefinitely as authorities mobilised all available resources for rescue and relief operations.

Personnel from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Army, and local police have reached the area, reports said.

▸ J&K mishap, Page 4

Damaged houses after a cloudburst struck Chositi in Kishtwar district, Jammu and Kashmir, on Thursday. PTI

S&P Global upgrades India's credit ratings after 18 years

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Credit ratings agency S&P Global on Thursday upgraded India's long-term sovereign credit ratings to 'BBB' from 'BBB-' with a stable outlook citing economic resilience, low inflation and sustained fiscal consolidation.

It has also upgraded India's short-term rating to 'A-2' from 'A-3'. India's ratings upgrade by S&P Global comes after a gap of 18 years. The last upgrade was in 2007 when it was also upgraded to 'BBB'.

"The upgrade of India reflects its buoyant economic growth, against the backdrop of an enhanced monetary policy environment that anchors inflationary expectations," S&P Global said.

Welcoming the S&P Global's decision, the Union Finance Ministry said ratings upgrade reaffirms that "India's economy is truly agile, active, and resilient".

Details on Page 15

Bldg violations Bill targets engineers

BENGALURU, DHNS: Registered engineers and architects will be penalised Rs 2 lakh if they prepare or certify the plan of a building that violates government-approved design, according to a Bill tabled in the Assembly on Thursday.

In case of repeated violations, registration of such an engineer or architect will be cancelled.

Details on Page 8

Dharmasthala case a 'big conspiracy': DKS amid SIT probe

BENGALURU, DHNS: In a significant statement, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Thursday brushed aside allegations of mass burials at Dharmasthala, dubbing it as a dud case and a "big conspiracy" to defame the temple town.

Shivakumar's statement came even as a Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed by his own government is still investigating the allegations in Dharmasthala for nearly a month now.

"There's a big conspiracy underway. I won't say who's behind it. But it's a well-planned strategy to tarnish (Dharmasthala) and defame a legacy of hundreds and thousands of years...efforts are on to destroy that," Shivakumar told reporters. "Whatever be the religion, Hindu or anyone, sentiments mustn't be hurt. We won't protect the guilty," Shivakumar said.

▸ Dharmasthala, Page 8A

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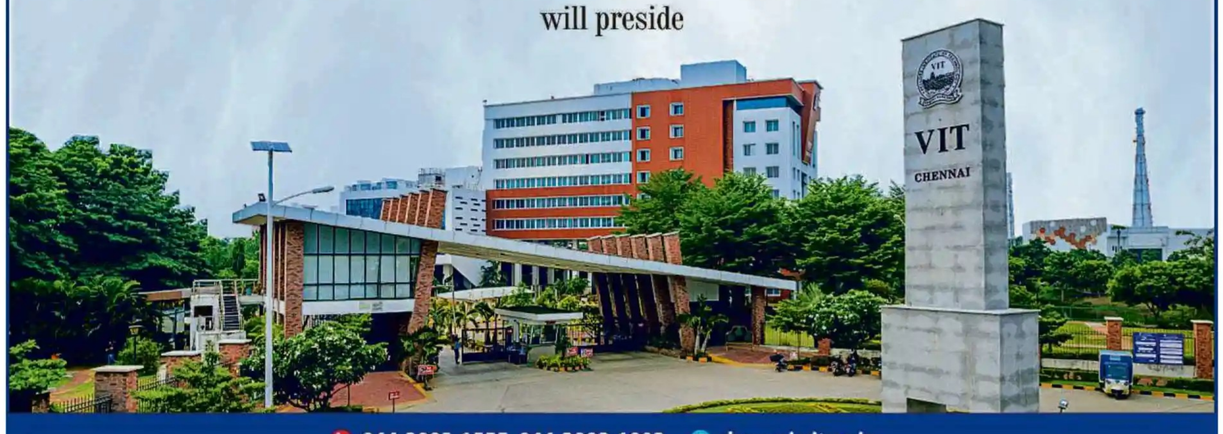
will preside



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Govt under pressure to allot land in Hebbal to Namma Metro

BENGALURU, DHNS: Pressure is mounting on the government from various quarters to hand over 45 acres of land in Hebbal for Namma Metro. Stakeholders have appealed to the government against handing over the land to real estate developers.

In her letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Union Minister and Bengaluru North MP Shobha Karandlaje said, "Reduction in the allocation of land to Namma Metro will adversely impact the public, and will cause inconvenience to my constituents, and the citizens of Bengaluru."

The letter, which was also sent to Deputy CM D K Shivakumar, added, "The proposed site for the BMRCL transport facility is one of the last large land parcels available in this area. The proposed project is vital to addressing traffic congestion in the area, besides boosting connectivity to upcoming industrial hubs in North Bengaluru. It will ensure seamless integration of Metro, Suburban Rail and BMTC bus services."

Sri Krishna Janmashtami at Iskcon

BENGALURU, DHNS: Iskcon Bengaluru will celebrate Sri Krishna Janmashtami at Hare Krishna Hill, Vaikuntha Hill and KTPO, Whitefield, on August 15 and 16.

The two-day event will include elaborate abhishekas, aratis, chappan bhog, pushpanjali seva, pallaki utsav and jhulan seva for Lord Krishna at all three venues. The deities will also be offered a special bhog of 108 delicacies.

The temples will be ornate with colourful flowers, intricate decorations, lights and festoons. The presiding deities will be adorned in new vastra-bhushana and exquisite flower garlands on this occasion.

A grand abhisheka has been planned. This will be followed by an arati and offering of varieties of traditional food preparations. An elaborate midnight abhisheka will be performed on August 16 to celebrate Lord Krishna's appearance.

There is an Ananda Mahotsava at KTPO, Whitefield, as a part of the Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations.

Musical performances by Sid Sriram, a renowned Carnatic musician and playback singer and Sadho the Band, a leading folk-fusion band, are among the highlights of the event.

DULT rips apart BBMP's Rs 4.7 cr traffic feasibility report

'Report does not align with city's broader mobility goals'

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) has teared into the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) Rs 4.7 crore feasibility report, which had originally proposed the tunnel road project, by flagging at least 14 major issues.

The observations by none other than the secretariat to the Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority (BMLTA), come at a time when DyCM D K Shivakumar defended both the tunnel road and over 100-km of elevated road projects in the ongoing assembly session on Thursday which were taken up based on the recommendation of BBMP's 'sub-standard' feasibility report.

In its detailed technical review, the DULT observed glaring issues in the feasibility study, including the omission of critical traffic analysis, environmental and geological assessments among others. It also noted that the report does not align with Bengaluru's broader mobility goals, which had targeted increasing public transport share to 70% by 2035.

While the DULT had made these remarks in November 2024 and took about four months of work, it became public only after it was sourced under the RTI Act by veteran environmentalist D T Devare.

In its review, DULT observed that the BBMP had not conducted origin-destination (OD) surveys while recommending a cost-intensive tunnel project as well as its alignment. While the BBMP downplayed the need for such surveys, DULT countered this, stating that data is essential not only to estimate corridor demand but also to assess segment-wise traffic volumes - for example, Hebbal to Silk Board or Mehkri Circle to Lalbagh.

The DULT also found that the BBMP had not conducted traffic volume counts at entry and exit junctions, which is crucial to determine existing junction capacity and future congestion levels.

More importantly, the review also noted that traffic forecasts in the feasibility report were rudimentary as it it did not take into account several ongoing and planned infrastructure projects such as Namma Metro's Phase 2 A and B (Central Silk Board - Airport), Phase 3 (JP Nagar - Hebbal) and Phase 3 A (Sarjapur - Hebbal) as well as the suburban railway, the Satellite Town Ring Road and the Peripheral Ring Road.

The BBMP's report lacked both environment impact and seismic risk assessments, which the DULT described as essential for a city like Bengaluru with varying geological conditions. The DULT also pointed out that tunnel road alignment came into conflict with the Metro at 11 points and not three as mentioned in the BBMP's report.

Given the scale, cost and complexity of building long and deep tunnel roads, DULT wondered whether BBMP had technical expertise to undertake such a work that requires a multi-disciplinary approach. Instead, it suggested shorter tunnel roads in places such as Goraguntepalya, Tin Factory and Central Silk Board to improve connectivity.

BBMP chief directs officials to prepare zonal plans

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) chief commissioner Maheshwar Rao, on Thursday, directed the officials to prepare micro plans at the zonal level to expedite the process of repairing the roads in the city and filling up potholes.

He asked the officials to prioritise fixing the potholes on major arterial and sub-arterial roads.

"Engineers in each zone are to conduct site inspections, identify potholes and carry out repairs using appropriate materials such as hot mix, cold mix or eco-fix solutions," he said.

The BBMP, in a statement, said that the civic body along with the Bengaluru traffic police had identified 4,500 potholes across major roads and ward-level roads in the city.

Of these, 3,621 potholes fall under BBMP limits, while the remaining 879 are outside its purview. Rao instructed officials to ensure all the potholes under the BBMP jurisdiction are filled at the earliest.

"Potholes identified by the traffic police have been mapped using GIS. After the repairs, photographic documentation of each completed work will be attached, as instructed by the chief engineer of the projects department," the statement by BBMP said.

That apart, he asked officials to pull up contractors and hold them accountable in case roads develop potholes within Defect Liability Period.

Officials have been asked to check the various works taken up by other agencies such as Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited and Bescom and coordinate with the agencies to ensure that they restore the roads they have dug up.

Yellow Line brings crowd surge and chaos to Majestic

New commuters finding it difficult to traverse metro stn

ASRA MAVAD & SHRADDHA S
BENGALURU, DHNS

A view of the rush at the Majestic interchange metro station on Thursday. DH PHOTO/ASRA MAVAD

With the Yellow Line now operational, metro stations across the city have seen a rise in footfall, but the heaviest rush is concentrated at Majestic, a key interchange hub for commuters.

Majestic has always been busy during peak hours with IT employees, students and other office-goers. However, since the Yellow Line's launch, the crowd from Kadugodi has surged, heading towards Silk Board Junction in the mornings and returning towards the late half of the day. The congestion peaks when trains from Kadugodi and RV Road arrive simultaneously in the evenings.

Regular commuters raised concerns about the increasing crowd at the station over the past few days.

"Two days ago, the rush was such that people overflowed onto the escalator, and I ended up falling off it towards the end. And even after I fell, people pushed me. Thankfully, some students helped me. The security guards are barely visible in this crowd," said 29-year-old Ranjini, who travels by metro from Halasuru to Attiguppe for work every day.

Commuters also shared that the crowd had added to longer waiting time. "The metro trains towards Majestic from Whitefield were always full during peak hours, but ever since the Yellow Line opened, the crowd has become horrible. We can barely enter the trains, let alone stand," a regular commuter said.

Newer commuters find it even more difficult—confused by the layout of the Majestic metro station.

"I have only started using the metro on Monday to get to my office in Jayanagar. The layout of the Majestic station is so confusing, and the overflowing crowds only make it worse. On Wednesday, I almost had a panic attack as I wasn't able to figure out my way out of the station," said Shubhashini, 22.

The Majestic station opened in 2016 and has a floor surface area of 5.2 lakh square feet, or nine times the size of a football field.

What BMRCL says

A senior BMRCL official acknowledged the surge in crowds at Majestic after the Yellow Line opened".

"There's been a visible increase in crowds at Majestic, though most are smart card users. We're still analysing the data. We've deployed adequate staff. There are ASOs (assistant security officers), station controllers and home guards. We also encourage people to use the staircase to prevent incidents on escalators," the official told DH.

He added that the situation at Majestic would improve when more trains are inducted on the Yellow Line, and when more interchange stations open at M G Road and Jayadeva Hospital.

Another senior official said crowds were not spilling over. "Newcomers may be confused, so they follow signage installed across the station," he said.

New Metro line gets all coaches of fourth train, testing to begin soon

BENGALURU, DHNS: All six coaches of the Yellow Line's fourth trainset have arrived in Bengaluru and are set to undergo testing, according to a senior official in Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL).

While the first coach reached the Hebbagodi depot on Tuesday night, the remaining five came on Wednesday night.

The coaches have been unloaded at the depot and will be formed into a trainset through gangway fitment on Friday, the official told *DH*.

The train will then be taken to the Inspection Bay Line (IBL) for static tests. In the next step, it will be run on the Yellow Line tracks for dynamic testing.

"Since the Yellow Line has become operational, mainline testing will happen only at night and take at least two weeks. We're doing our best, and our rolling stock and signaling teams are working hard. It's in our interest to complete the testing and induct the train into service as soon as possible," the official added.

The fourth train will help improve the Yellow Line frequency from 25 to 20 minutes.

The Bengal-based Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL), which is making trains under a sub-contract with China's CRRC Nanjing Puzhen Co Ltd, is expected to dispatch the fifth train mid-September and the sixth in October. It is also expected to deliver two trains per month from October and all 15 by March.

1 mn ridership for third straight day

Namma Metro ferried more than one million passengers for the third straight day (Wednesday) as total boardings touched 10.33 lakh.

Total boardings hit a record high of 10.42 lakh on Monday, followed by 10.32 lakh on Tuesday.

Bengaluru's coolest August day in 35 years

BENGALURU, DHNS: The maximum temperature in Bengaluru city on Wednesday reached 22.6°C, making it the coolest August day in 35 years.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), this was 5.6°C lower than the normal maximum temperature for August. The minimum temperature was 19.4°C.

Their difference—diurnal temperature variation—was only 3.2°C, making days nearly as cool as nights. On August 20, 1990, the city recorded a maximum temperature of 22.7°C.

Bengaluru city's mean maximum temperature for August is 28.1°C and the minimum 20°C.

BMTC rolls out 10 AC e-buses on airport routes, eyes 85 by Oct 1

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has started running air-conditioned electric buses to and from the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy flagged off 10 such buses at the BMTC bus lounge in Terminal 2 on Thursday.

Eight of them are running on the KIA-14 route, connecting the airport to Royal Meenakshi Mall (Bannerghatta Road) via Vega City Mall, Jayadeva hospital, Dairy Circle and Shanthinagar TTMC, a senior BMTC official said.

By October 1, BMTC plans to operate 85 AC e-buses on 11 airport routes (see box).

They are part of a 320-bus order being leased from OHM Global Mobility Solution Ltd for Rs 65.8 per km, inclusive of driver costs.

The BMTC already runs 177 AC e-buses on Vajra (non-airport premium) routes and will add 58 more by October 1, said G T Prabhakara Reddy, Chief Traffic Manager (Operations), BMTC).

In the coming days, 30 AC e-buses will be launched from Depot 7 (Majestic), where charging infrastructure is ready and bus crew are being deployed, he added.

The corporation, which runs 1,646 e-buses, is inducting the AC e-buses to replace its ageing Volvo fleet, which currently stands at 434.

"The 177 buses on Vajra routes are running satisfactorily, so we decided to introduce them on airport routes, too," Reddy told *DH*.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy flags off AC e-buses from the airport on Thursday. PHOTO/BMTC

To operate the e-buses, BMTC has set up opportunity charging facilities near the airport, with nine chargers with a total capacity of 240 kW installed at P7 parking.

The BMTC invested Rs 1.5 crore in the facility while Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) provided space for free.

The 12-metre, low-floor (400 mm) buses are equipped with 283 kWh batteries and can run up to 225 km per day. They run 150 km on a single full charge and 75 km with opportunity charging, which takes 45-60 minutes.

Opportunity charging is also available at Silk Board, Kadugodi Bus Stand and Majestic. Reddy said the issue of crew shortage had been addressed.

The BMTC runs 156 Vayu Vajra (Volvo) buses along 22 routes, serving 14,000 passengers daily on average.

AC e-buses on airport routes

- **KIA-4: HAL Main Gate via JB Nagar Bus Stand and Indiranagar police station. Nine buses will be deployed on this route.**
- KIA-5: Banashankari TTMC via JP Nagar 6th Phase, Jayanagar 4th Block, and Shanthinagar TTMC. Seven buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-5D: Art of Living (Kanakapura Road) via Raghuvanahalli, JP Nagar 6th Phase, Jayanagar 4th Block and Shanthinagar TTMC. Eight buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-6: Kadugodi Bus Station via Whitefield post office, HAL Main Gate and Domlur. Six buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-6A: Kadugodi Bus Station via Hope Farm, ITPL, Hoodi Circle and Garudacharpalya. Two buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-7: HSR Layout KEB Junction via HSR Layout BDA Complex, Jakkasandra, Koramangala water tank, checkpost and Shantinagar TTMC. Three buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-7A: HSR BDA Complex via Jakkasandra, MG Road, Shivajinagar Bus Station and Mehkri Circle. Eleven buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-9: Kempegowda Bus Station via Shivananda Circle, Mehkri Circle and Hebbal. Twenty-one buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-10: Mysuru Road Bus Station via Vijayanagar TTMC, Yeshwantpur TTMC and Mehkri Circle. Five buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-14: Royal Meenakshi Mall (Bannerghatta Road) via Vega City Mall, Jayadeva Hospital, Dairy Circle and Shanthinagar TTMC. Eight buses will be deployed on this route.
- KIA-15: Whitefield TTMC (back gate) via ITPL, Hope Farm, Kadugodi, Khaji Sonnenahalli and Budigere. Five buses will be deployed on this route.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Publication of E-Tender Notice
No. Auto_Sig-CSDR-PKD Date : 11.08.25
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Name of Work	Approx.Value
Provision of Automatic Signalling between Channasandra-Penukonda Section of Bengaluru Division.	Rs. 139,40,69,610.84

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 11.00 hrs on 22.09.2025**
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/ Construction, Bangalore Contonment
PUB/383/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
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CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for the following works : **(a) Tender No.: EL/1545. (b) Name of the work:** Electrical work for Pressurized Hydrant Network by providing additional fire hydrant point and boosting arrangement at CLW/Chittaranjan. **(c) Tender Type:** Works. **(d) Tender Value (GST inclusive) (Rupees): ₹ 61,47,830.68** (Rupees Sixty-One Lakhs Forty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty and Paise Sixty-Eight) only. **(e) Cost of tender Document (Rupees):** Not Applicable. **(f) Earnest Money (Rupees): ₹ 1,23,000.00** (Rupees One Lakhs Twenty-Three Thousand) only. **(g) Period of completion (In Months):** 03 (Three) Months. **(h) Date of closing: 25/08/2025 at 15:00 hrs. Note:** Complete details can be seen on the Railway's website **www.ireps.gov.in**
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[PR4/172]
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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER (MSME), NEW DELHI

Expression of Interest (EoI) for Empanelment of Implementing Agencies for FY 2025-26

The Office of the Development Commissioner (MSME) invites applications from eligible Implementing Agencies (IAs) for their empanelment to organize training programmes under the Scheme of Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) for FY 2025-26, as per the scheme guidelines **https://dcmsme.gov.in/ESDP-Guidelines-new-01-04-2022.pdf**

The Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) aims to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship by providing technical and managerial training. It focuses on entrepreneurial skill enhancement, capacity building for MSMEs, fostering innovation, and generating employment. The programme ensures inclusive growth, targeting youth, women, and disadvantaged groups to drive economic development through technical up skilling and business innovation.

Eligibility Criteria for Empanelment

- Proven experience in organizing entrepreneurship skill development programmes.
- Adequate infrastructure and resources to conduct high-quality training.
- Willingness to adopt digital platforms for monitoring and evaluation.
- Institutes/organizations already shortlisted for the ESDP Scheme in the earlier phase for the current FY 2025-26, will not be considered again.
- **Private Institutes, Private Universities, NGOs, Private Organizations, Private Bodies and Private Companies are not eligible for applying.**

Who Can Apply

Institutes: IITs, IIMs, NITs, Technology Centers (TCs), Tool Rooms, Central and State Universities, Govt Agricultural Universities, Govt. Research Centres (Scientific and Agricultural/Others) Central Autonomous Bodies under the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India, and institutes from Central and State Government departments.

How to Apply

Interested organizations can submit their application in the prescribed format can be downloaded from the official website at **www.dcmsme.gov.in** (Scroll Down -> Notice Board) along with supporting documents through email to **esdp.div@dcmsme.gov.in** within **21 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

For More Details, Visit: www.dcmsme.gov.in or contact the following address:

Joint Director (ESDP) O/o DC (MSME)
Room No.731, A-Wing, 7th Floor, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi – 110011, **Email: esdp.div@dcmsme.gov.in**

CBC 25113/12/0015/2526

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. BE-29-2025-26-OT-10 (through E-Tendering)
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Description of work	Approx. Value
Modification for 4th, 3rd and 1st floor of Divisional Railway Manager's building and Provision of one escalator on Platform-4 of Kengeri railway station- Electrical arrangements. **Period of completion** : 06 Months.	Rs. 95,24,648.00

Last Date for Submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 29.08.2025**
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General
PUB/380/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26 Bengaluru
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE No. Auto_Sig_ YPR-ASK Date: 08.08.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Item of Work	Approx. Value
Provision of Automatic Signalling between Yesvantpur - Arsikere Section of Bengaluru and Mysuru Divisions.	₹160,89,45,177.76

Last Date for Submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 15.09.2025**
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Happy 79th Independence Day

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karnataka information

What unseen chains shackle you?

Poor infrastructure, prejudiced expectations, and loaded conventions silently curb freedom, Bengalureans say

TINI SARA ANIEN
TEAM METROLIFE

As the country marks its 79th Independence Day, city-based artists, activists and thinkers share their thoughts on the restrictions they continue to face.

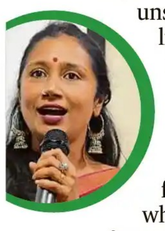
'Lack of public spaces'

V RAVICHANDAR
Urbanist and civic evangelist

"What I find most shackling is the lack of public and community spaces — for children to play, families to gather, and arts and culture to thrive. In Bengaluru, the outdoor spaces are shrinking, access to parks is limited, and green spaces are disappearing. My grandchildren no longer have access to the kind of public spaces I enjoyed 60 years ago. This restricts not only play and creativity but also the shared cultural life of the city."

'Limited mobility'

PRIYA VARADARAJAN
Gender rights activist and founder of Durga India



"Poor roads, terrible traffic, and unsafe public transport limit my ability to move around freely. My gender identity adds another layer of restriction — lack of safety prevents me from accessing spaces whenever I want to. These factors confine my independence, and ability to connect with the world on my own terms."

'Can't donate blood'

PRIYANK ASHA SUKANAND
Founder of Queer Collective India

"Since I am a gay man, I am not allowed to donate blood in India. In a recent hospitalisation incident, I was turned away from donating blood. This ban is rooted in a stereotype that gay men are primary carriers of HIV, ignoring both science and ethics. Every unit of blood is tested before transfusion, making this policy unnecessary and discriminatory. For me, this is not just a legal barrier, it's a deeply personal pain."

'Loss of personal freedom'

ARUNDHATI RAJA
Theatre personality and founder-trustee of Jagriti Theatre

"I am currently directing 'The House of Bernarda Alba', a play written by Federico Garcia Lorca. And it is making me think a lot about loss of freedom — not the political kind, but personal freedom. It's the kind that comes from constraints in relationships or family, where your choices, creativity, or even thoughts are limited. It's imposed by the people closest to you, and seeps into every aspect of life."

'Balancing act'

ARUN JAVGAL
Kannada language activist

"Pro-Kannada and Karnataka activism has always been my passion, but I am tied by my responsibilities — running my household and a small IT company. I come from a modest background, and I must provide for my family while navigating business uncertainties, technological advancements, and shifting political landscapes. I often cannot dedicate myself entirely to the cause. Every day is, thus, a balancing act between responsibility and passion."

'Artists often self-censor'

SURESH JAYARAM
Artist, curator and author

"Unwritten rules and censorship often shackle artists like me. An example is the unwritten rules about what can or cannot be represented in art — it could relate to nudity, religion, or anything that the public or authorities could consider obscene or unworthy of depiction. In such situations, artists often self-censor, choosing oblique ways to communicate ideas through metaphors. This unseen pressure causes creative challenges not just for me but for anyone trying to freely represent the world."

'Burden of social expectations'

LAXMI CHANDRASHEKAR
Theatre artiste and actor

"As a woman, my freedom is constrained by safety concerns and social expectations. Travelling late at night for performances or rehearsals brings the fear of being attacked. At the same time, I feel the pressure to prioritise my duties as a wife and mother due to the weight of society's expectations, though I have support. Social judgement, especially from neighbours, has also affected me. Even now, these fears and responsibilities often shape the choices I make."

Things to do on I-Day

Concerts by Indian Army, Air Force
To observe India's 79th Independence Day, the Indian Army's brass band, pipe band, and jazz band will perform today from 11 am, at Fan Park, Phoenix Mall of Asia, Yelahanka. They will play patriotic anthems like 'Maa tujhe salaam' and 'Ae mere watan ke logon', along with jazz arrangements and traditional pipe music at the day-long event titled 'Echoes of the Nation'.

The Indian Air Force's 30-member Air Warrior Symphony Orchestra will perform at the lakeside of Orion Mall, Rajajinagar, at 6 pm. Their setlist will comprise patriotic, motivational, film, and fusion songs. Kannada tracks will include 'Huttidare Kannada', 'Bombe helutaithe', and 'Jagave neenu gelathiye'. These events are open to all.

Play on Gandhi, Tagore's friendship
Bangalore Little Theatre will stage its acclaimed play 'The Prophet and the Poet' on August 15, 6.30 pm, at Indian Heritage Academy, Koramangala. Based on the exchange of letters and articles between Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore over 25 years, it unfolds against the backdrop of the freedom struggle. Though they differed on the idea of freedom, they deeply valued their friendship. Entry free. To RSVP, visit indianheritageacademy.org.

Citizen group keeps midnight flag hoisting tradition alive

Historically, freedom fighters and their families have upheld the practice at spots like Sajjan Rao Circle and Mysore Bank Circle

BARKHA KUMARI
TEAM METROLIFE

On the evening of August 14, around 800 people gathered at a school ground in Halasuru to witness the Indian flag being hoisted at midnight. They were participating in an initiative to carry forward Bengaluru's tradition of marking Independence Day with a midnight ceremony.

This was the third edition of the initiative by Satyameva Jayate, a collective of progressive artistes and citizens from Bengaluru. "It reminds citizens of the sacrifices made for the freedom we enjoy today. We also highlight the Constitution at the gatherings as it upholds the spirit of independence," said Vinay Kumar, a member.

According to the collective, freedom fighters, their families, and like-minded citizens have for decades hoisted the flag at the stroke of midnight between August 14 and 15 at Sajjan Rao Circle and Mysore Bank Circle. But participation had dwindled in recent years.

Legacy of resistance

Metrolife spoke to Jansi Lakshmi Rani K, daughter of the late freedom fighter N V Krishnamachari from Basavanagudi. A social worker, Jansi said the midnight flag hoisting tradition at Sajjan Rao Circle began a year before Independence. It was an act of defiance against British rule and a symbol of the aspiration for self-governance. Her father, along with friends such as Kadri Shamanna, Shamraj Iyengar, Venkata Ramanaiah, H S Doreswamy, and H Narasimhaiah, was part of the momentous occasion.

Information and memorabilia related to freedom fighters and the Constitution are displayed around the venue.

They hoisted a Swaraj flag featuring a spinning charkha at its centre. It was first raised during the Shivapura Satyagraha in 1938 in Mandya district as an act of resistance. It was used again shortly after, during a protest in Vidurashwatha village, Chikkaballapur district, where police opened fire on freedom fighters, killing at least 32 people. The tragedy is often called Karnataka's Jallianwala Bagh. The same flag was used during Quit India Movement rallies at Mysore Bank Circle in the city in 1942. Jansi's family still has this historic flag. It was on display at the first edition of Satyameva Jayate's event, held on the property of a restaurant in Ashok Nagar.

According to her, All India Freedom Fighter Samithi, and Lokamanya Sangha initiated the midnight hoisting at Mysore Bank Circle. "They are continuing it at Freedom Park too," says the 59-year-old.

The 2023 midnight flag hoisting by Satyameva Jayate was held on the property of a popular restaurant in Ashok Nagar.

Memorabilia

These gatherings would draw about 50 people and feature pledges, flag distribution, cultural skits, and speeches on books, organ donation, and blood donation. The new initiative brings together NGOs promoting constitutional values, along with artistes who perform songs and poetry on harmony, labour, and the futility of casteism, at zero or nominal cost. The event starts at 5 pm and goes past midnight.

They also display memorabilia from the freedom movement, such as a commemorative copper plate and a charkha belonging to Krishnamachari, and a rare photograph of the Constituent Assembly shared by the family of H R Guruv Reddy, who was part of it. K C Reddy and Kengal Hanumanthaiah from the Mysore state were some of the other members.

This year and last year, the event was held at Halasuru's RBANM's High School, run by a trust with ties to both the freedom movement and social justice. "Freedom fighters used to assemble on the school grounds to plan demonstrations against the British. The founders also contributed their jewels to support Mahatma Gandhi's struggle in South Africa," Kumar says.

In these two editions, a photograph of the founder's family with Kasturba Gandhi, and another of their grandniece performing Bharatanatyam at the 1947 Independence Day celebrations at Mayo Hall, were exhibited. Also on display was a message from Gandhi commending people for supporting the abolition of untouchability.

Speaking about the impact, Kumar says elderly people who had only heard of midnight flag hoisting in Bengaluru are now turning up. Youngsters are beginning to see Independence Day in a new light. Families of six freedom fighters in the city have contacted them. "One school teacher said her mother was thrilled we are reviving the tradition. Her mother was a young girl when her family hoisted the Indian flag at midnight in 1947," he shares.

The collective also organises a flag lowering ceremony on August 15. Today, it is scheduled at 6.45 pm on the RBANM's school grounds.

EVENTS

Remembering Kishore
Anirudha Bhattacharjee and Parthiv Dhar will discuss their book, 'Kishore Kumar: The Ultimate Biography', in a two-part series online on August 17 and 24, 8.30 pm. For registration and details, visit nostalgiaana.com.

Dance demonstration
Karnataka's folk dance heritage will be the focus of 'Nrutya Beru', a lecture demonstration by dance practitioner and researcher Sneha Kappanna. Dance forms like Pattada Kunitha, Soligara Kunitha and Kamsale will also be demonstrated at the event on August 16, 6 pm, at Indian Music Experience museum, J P Nagar. To RSVP, visit indianmusicexperience.org.

Evening of kathak
Pavanee Kalavakava will showcase the essence of kathak's heritage through a production called 'Kathak Parampara' on August 15, 6 pm, at Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval. She will take the stage alongside artistes like Praveen D Rao, Murali Mohan Kalvakalva and Nandini Mehta.

Tree walk at NGMA tomorrow

TEAM METROLIFE

Botanist B S Chandrashekar will lead a guided tree walk in the National Gallery of Modern Art (Bengaluru) campus on Palace Road on August 16. The event is titled 'ar-bo-re-tum' and will give participants a basic understanding of the common and uncommon trees that grow on the 3-acre campus.

An older edition of 'ar-bo-re-tum' led by B S Chandrashekar (in white shirt) at NGMA, Palace Road. DH FILE PHOTO

"While most of the trees and plants growing on the campus are common, even those are getting harder to find in Bengaluru," says Chandrashekar, who works at the Institute of Wood Science and Technology. The scientist will offer basic information and insight into the flora and fauna of the NGMA campus. "It is a small campus but it has a lot of trees on its premises. It is a lung space right in the centre of the city," he shares.

The campus is home to tamarind, jackfruit, jamun and sandalwood trees.

"Most trees are 50-60 years old. The jamun tree is probably 60-70 years old, while the sandalwood trees are 20-30 years old," he says, adding that people walk past these trees every day but are unaware of their significance.

Talking about the rising temperatures in Bengaluru, Chandrashekar notes that older areas of Bengaluru like Malleswaram and Sanjaynagar, witness lower temperatures, even in peak summer. But the temperatures are higher in newer areas, like Koramangala and HSR Layout, which have a larger number of highrises. "This is because the tall buildings block the hot air from rising. And concrete reflects heat, adding to the already soaring heat," he explains.

On August 16, 4 pm, at NGMA Bengaluru, Palace Road. For details, look up ngmaindia.gov.in.

POPCORN

Think of the D

Actor Darshan, accused in a murder case, was busy shooting abroad, and the Supreme Court wanted to know why he wasn't in jail. Don't know if it's self-awareness or irony, but his upcoming film is called 'The Devil'. A song was slated for release on Friday — it goes 'Iddre nemdiyaag irbeku'. Meaning 'If you live, you must live in peace.' Looks like the court has tweaked the lyrics — 'If you live, you must live behind bars.'

Kannada lectures by noted literary critic available online

TEAM METROLIFE

A series of video lectures by noted literary critic H S Raghavendra Rao on 20th-century Kannada literature is now available on YouTube. Titled 'Nooru Mara Nooru Swara' (A Hundred Trees, A Hundred Tunes), the lectures cover various literary phases such as Navodaya, Navya, Bandaya, Dalit literature, and Women's Writing, as well as genres like poetry, theatre, and criticism.

H S Raghavendra Rao as seen in one of the lectures.

The series also covers prominent literary figures, including Kuvempu, Shivarama Karanth, Da Ra Bendre, Masti Venkatesha Iyengar, Pu Ti Narasimhachar, K S Narasimhaswamy, Madhurachenna, Gopalakrishna Adiga, Yashwant Chittal, P Lankesh, U R Ananthamurthy, and Poornachandra Tejasvi.

Rao is a senior Kannada literary critic and translator. He is the recipient of several awards, including the Rajyotsava Award, and the Karnataka Sahitya Academy Award.

New lectures are released every week and can be accessed for free on Kathana Studio's YouTube channel (@kathanastudio).

Exhibition on history, tradition of Banarasi weaves from today

The showcase will focus on the motifs, artisans and process of weaving

TEAM METROLIFE

River Weaves, an exhibition on the history, significance and preservation of Banarasi weaving, will be held from August 15 to 20 at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. The exhibit is presented by veteran textile revivalist Chandra Jain, and designed and curated by graphic designers Chiara Nath and Siddhartha Das.

"I wanted to spread awareness about the wealth of our country's weaving traditions, which we have lost out on over the years and are continuing to lose. These skills are not easy to learn. They were handed down from one generation to the next," Chandra says.

The re-introduction of natural dyes in Banarasi weaving is one of the major themes in the exhibition.

As a part of her work as a textile revivalist, Chandra also re-introduced natural dyes to weavers she worked with in Varanasi. This is one of the major themes in the exhibition. "Weavers largely stopped using natural dyes for about 125 years. Back then, we did not have chemical dyes. We relied on natural ingredients for our colours and yet, our clothes have always been very colourful," she explains.

Apart from Banarasi fabrics and saris, the showcase will also shed light on the whole process of weaving.

"From the origin of the silk and spinning to when it is ready to be put on the loom, one can gain insight into the skills that are required to make a Banarasi sari," she shares.

Some exhibits highlight the importance of the punch-card makers in the process of weaving. "It is a very crucial job. Even one small mistake will result in defects in the sari," Chandra points out.

The motifs used in traditional Banarasi saris will also feature in the exhibition. Each motif has a history and connection with the region's flora and fauna. "A lot of the patterns came from Persia, but the weavers Indianised it — from the mango or paisley, to marigold and parijata flowers," she notes.

August 15 to 20, 11 am to 8 pm, at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. For details, look up bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

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◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Government of Karnataka: Independence Day celebrations, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and others; Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw Ground, Mahatma Gandhi Road; 9 am.

Indira Gandhi Centre for Arts: Recital of patriotic songs by Nagachandrika Bhat and others, Bangalore Regional Centre, 9 am.

Department of Kannada and Culture: Cultural events, Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar; Ravindra Kalakshetra, JC Road; 6 pm.

CULTURE

Yakshakala Academy: 'Adinarayana Darshana' Yakshagana show, Nagarabhavi; 4.30 pm.

Nadam: Kathak Parampara, Chowdiaah Memorial Hall, Malleshwaram, 6 pm.

Creative Theatre: Staging of the play 'Kaya' directed by Veena Basavarajaiah, Rangashankara, JP Nagar; 7.30 pm

Veeraloka: Release of short story collection 'Olacharandi' followed by sessions on literature; Purushothama Bilimale, Nagatihalli Chandrashekhar, S Diwakar, Kusuma Ayarahalli, Meghana Sudhindra and others, Kannada Sahitya Parishath, Chamarajapet, 10.30 am.

Rangoli Metro Art Centre: Art exhibition '7 Sheds', Rangoli, MG Road; 11 am.

RELIGIOUS

ISKCON: Srikrishna Janmashtami; White Pearl Convention Hall, RR Nagar; 4 pm.

Invites to be published in this column should be sent to: **incitytoday@deccanherald.co.in.** Please note that hard copies will not be accepted

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with Light rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	24.8°C
Minimum	19.4°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	95%
Sunset (Aug 15)	6:41 pm
Sunrise (Aug 16)	6:07 am
Moonrise	10:27 pm
Moonset	10:27 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Woman sells newborn girl, later files plaint

BENGALURU, DHNS: The DJ Halli police have registered a case after three people allegedly purchased a newborn baby girl from her mother for Rs 2.5 lakh.

The FIR was registered on August 12, following a plaint by Naseema Begum, 33, from Vinoba Nagar. She told the police that she married Dasthagir 15 years ago and had four children: two boys and two girls. The FIR noted that she sold the fourth child, a newborn girl, to Amuda, Ramya and Kannan on July 26 for Rs 2.5 lakh. "Since we need the child now, we request you to get her back," Naseema said as per the FIR. The case was registered under Section 143 (trafficking of a person) of the BNS. Police are now trying to trace the baby.

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SARVOTTAM YUDH SEVA MEDAL
1. LT GEN PRATIK SHARMA, PVSM, AVSM, SM, MADRAS, HQ NORTHERN COMD
2. LT GEN RAJIV GHAI, UYSM, AVSM, SM***, KUMAON, IHQ OF MoD(ARMY)

KIRTI CHAKRA
1. CAPT LALRINAWMA SAILO, 4 PARA (SF)
2. LT SHASHANK TIWARI, ASC, 1 SIKKIM SCOUTS
3. L/NK MEENATCHI SUNDARAM A, ARTY, 34 RR
4. SEP JANJAL PRAVIN PRABHAKAR, MAHAR, 1 RR

UTTAM YUDH SEVA MEDAL
1. LT GEN MANOJ KUMAR KATIYAR, PVSM, AVSM, RAJPUT, HQ WESTERN COMD
2. LT GEN PRASHANT SRIVASTAVA, AVSM, SM, PARA, HQ 15 CORPS
3. LT GEN PRASANNA KISHORE MISHRA, AVSM, YSM, SM, JAK LI, HQ 16 CORPS

VIR CHAKRA
1. COL KOSHANK LAMBA, 302 MED REGT
2. LT COL SUSHIL BISHT, 1988 (I) MED BTY
3. NB SUB SATISH KUMAR, 4 DOGRA
4. RFN SUNIL KUMAR, 4 JAK LI

SHAURYA CHAKRA
1. LT COL NEETESH BHARTI SHUKLA, 19 SIKH
2. MAJ BHARGAV KALITA, KUMAON, 50 RR
3. MAJ ASHISH KUMAR, 7 PARA (SF)
4. MAJ ADITYA PRATAP SINGH, SM, RAJ RIF, 44 ASSAM RIF
5. ASST COMDT MOHD SHAFIQ, 26 ASSAM RIF
6. SUB SHAMSHER SINGH, 4 PARA (SF)
7. L/NK RAHUL SINGH, 4 PARA (SF)
8. RFN BHOJ RAM SAHU, 3 ASSAM RIF

YUDH SEVA MEDAL
1. MAJ GEN SANDEEP SUDARSHAN SHARDA, SM, VSM, DOGRA, IHQ OF MOD (ARMY)
2. BRIG RAKESH NAIR, SM, VSM, 9 GR, IHQ OF MOD (ARMY)
3. BRIG VIVEK GOEL, AAD, HQ 616 (I) AD BDE
4. BRIG SURJEET KUMAR SINGH, SM, INT, HQ INT & FS GP
5. BRIG SONENDER SINGH, SM, ENGRS, HQ 75 (I) INF BDE
6. BRIG VIVEK PURI, SM, ASSAM, HQ 19 INF BDE
7. BRIG MUDIT MAHAJAN, SIKH, HQ 93 INF BDE
8. SUB VINOD KUMAR, HQ 1 EW BDE
9. NB SUB RATNESWAR GHOSH, 152 AD REGT

BAR TO SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)
1. MAJ RAHUL DUTTA, SM, ARTY, 6 RR
2. SEP NADIM IQBAL SHAH, SM, 163 INF BN TA

SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)
1. LT COL THAKUR MAHESHSINGH RAMSHANKARSINGH, MAHAR, 1 RR
2. LT COL PALUGULLA MASTAN REDDY, EASTERN COMD INT BN
3. LT COL PARIKSHIT PANWAR, 12 MAHAR
4. LT COL MOHAN SINGH, 4 RAJPUT
5. LT COL NIKHIL THAKUR, 160 INF BN TA
6. MAJ JAPPANPREET SINGH, ARMD, 22 RR
7. MAJ SUMEET GROHWAL, 9 PUNJAB
8. MAJ SHILADITYA SINGH RANAWAT, 21 PARA (SF)
9. MAJ HITESH SINGH VERMA, 5 JAK LI
10. MAJ YOGESH KUMAR, ARTY, 57 RR
11. MAJ ANKUR YADAV, 5 SIKH
12. MAJ SHIVANK PATHAK, MADRAS, 8 RR
13. MAJ AMIT BHATTI, 302 MED REGT
14. MAJ DHANANJAY JAMWAL, GRENADIERS, 29 RR
15. MAJ NIKHIL SHARMA, 4 PARA (SF)
16. MAJ ANUJ MAHAJAN, MECH INF, 36 ASSAM RIF
17. MAJ AMAN DHAR, SIGS, 22 RR
18. MAJ ROGER SAUL KAMUO MAO, KUMAON, 43 ASSAM RIF
19. MAJ GAGANDEEP SINGH, 9 RAJ RIF
20. MAJ SWAROOP ANJAN BEHERA, 5 JAK LI
21. CAPT VARUN CHADHA, 19 SIKH
22. SUB MAJ PAWAN KUMAR, PUNJAB, 10 INF BDE CAMP
23. SUB PRADEEP KUMAR, 278 MED REGT
24. SUB GIRRAJ SINGH RAJPOOT, 1851 LT REGT
25. SUB ROSHAN SINGH, 17 GARH RIF
26. SUB MANISH KUMAR DUBEY, 131 AD REGT
27. NB SUB RAKESH KUMAR, 2 PARA (SF)
28. NB SUB SATNAM SINGH, 30 PUNJAB
29. NB SUB ARVIND KUMAR, RAJ RIF, 57 RR
30. NB SUB BIRENDER SINGH, MAHAR, 1 RR
31. NB SUB PREM BAHADUR SINGH, 5/9 GR
32. NB SUB SURJA DEB BARMA, 1832 LT REGT
33. BHM PAWAN SINGH, 49 AD REGT
34. RHM ANKUR, 302 MED REGT
35. HAV SUNIL KUMAR SINGH, 625 EME BN
36. HAV GURPREET SINGH, 19 SIKH
37. HAV MEDADE VIKAS RAMDAS, 18 MARATHA LI
38. HAV JASWANT SINGH, 4 RAJPUT
39. HAV GOPAL PRADHAN, 12 MAHAR
40. L/HAV MOREY SANTOSH BHAGWAN, 34 (M) FD REGT
41. L/HAV LAGARIYA DINESHBHAI PALABHAI, 12 GRENADIERS
42. L/HAV JOBANPREET SINGH, 13 SIKH LI
43. NK GURJEET SINGH, 7 PARA (SF)
44. NK SUNIL, MECH INF, 9 RR
45. NK GURPREET SINGH, ARTY, 34 RR
46. NK BHUPINDER SINGH, 19 SIKH
47. NK ROBIN SINGH, 19 SIKH
48. L/NK DINESH KUMAR, 5 FD REGT
49. L/NK PARDEEP KUMAR, 1 PARA (SF)
50. L/NK ABHIMAN SINGH, ARTY, 34 RR
51. L/NK SUBHASH KUMAR, 7 JAT
52. SEP GURJODH SINGH, SIKH, 6 RR
53. RFN HILAL AHMAD BHAT, 162 INF BN (TA)
54. RFN MOHIT RATHOUR, RAJ RIF, 57 RR
55. RFN DIWAKER SINGH, 17 GARH RIF
56. RFN NAJUM UD DIN KHAN, 4 JAK LI
57. AGNIVEER KULVEER SINGH, 7 SIKH LI
58. AGNIVEER MOOD MURALINAIK, 851 LT REGT

MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES
1. MAJ ANKIT SHARMA, GRENADIERS, 29 RR
2. MAJ AYUSH NAGPAL, MECH INF, 9 RR
3. MAJ DIGVIJAY SINGH DHADWAL, NAGA, 50 RR
4. SUB GOPAL SINGH, ENGRS, 9 RR
5. NB SUB VIPAN KUMAR, DOGRA, 11 RR
6. HAV SURJEET SINGH, JAK LI, 57 RR
7. HAV KULDEEP SINGH, 9 PARA (SF)
8. HAV ANGREJ SINGH, 9 PARA (SF)
9. HAV KADAM VINOD BHIMRAO, 9 PARA (SF)
10. HAV METTA GIRIBABU, 21 MECH INF
11. HAV DIPAK KUMAR YADAV, 1 PARA (SF)
12. HAV SAKHARE KAILASH BHAGWAN, 12 MAHAR
13. HAV ZAFFAR IQBAL, 5 JAK LI
14. L/DFR BALDEV SINGH, ARMD, 8 RR
15. NK RAM RAKHA RAM, ARTY, 34 RR
16 NK SACHIN YADAV, ARTY, 32 RR
17. NK WINPANG PUMOH, ASSAM, 42 RR
18. NK SHAMMI KUMAR, 9 PARA (SF)
19. L/NK PARVEEN SHARMA, 1 PARA (SF)
20. L/NK JEET BAHADUR YADAV, JAT, 34 RR
21. SEP PANTH PUNJAB SINGH, 19 SIKH
22. SEP ARVIND SINGH, DOGRA, 11 RR
23. SEP MANISH KAUSHIK, MAHAR, 1 RR
24. PTR SURESH THAKUR, 7 PARA (SF)
25. LT COL TUSHAAR MENON, 14 GARH RIF
26. LT COL LAJU KR, 209 ARMY AVN SQN (UH)
27. LT COL WAGH BHUPAL VASANT, ENGRS, 113 RCC (GREF)
28. MAJ NEERAJ KUMAR SHARMA, 12 PARA (SF)
29. MAJ PARDEEP BALHARA, PARA, 31 RR
30. MAJ RAJEEV KAUSHAL, EME, 5 RR
31. MAJ SANJAY ADHIKARI, 23 GRENADIERS
32. MAJ ABHIJITH VS, ARTY, HQ SFF
33. MAJ AJITH KUMAR J, 13 MAHAR
34. CAPT AKARSH SHUKLA, 16 PUNJAB
35. ACIO-I THUPSTAN TSEPHEL, INT BUREAU, ITBF
36. SUB ANIL VARMA, MECH INF, 5 RR
37. DY LDR KALDEN PANJUR, HQ SFF
38. HAV BANEET KUMAR, 9 PARA (SF)
39. HAV KUNAL GURUNG, 11 GR, 1 SIKKIM SCOUTS
40. HAV NIRAN TAMANG, 11 GR, 1 SIKKIM SCOUTS
41. HAV ARUN KUMAR SUBEDI, 11 GR, 1 SIKKIM SCOUTS
42 HAV RANJEET LIMBOO, 12 PARA (SF)
43. L/NK KAVINDER, PARA, 31 RR
44. L/NK GAJENDRA KUMAR, 12 PARA (SF)
45. SEP INBARAJA R, 556 ASC BN
46. SEP SANDEEP SINGH, 25 SIKH
47. SEP S LUNGHANGLONG, 9 ASSAM
48. PTR MADDEPPA SARAPUR, 9 PARA (SF)
49. LT COL NARINDER SHARMA, 2 MAHAR
50. MAJ SURAJ RANA, 5/9 GR
51. MAJ RAMNEEK SINGH BHATIA, GARH RIF, 28 ASSAM RIF
52. MAJ KARAN BAINSLA, 5/9 GR
53. CAPT TARANJEET SINGH, 4 MAHAR
54. HAV DEEPAK THAPA, 5/9 GR
55. AGNIVEER YUVRAJ SINGH, 57 MTN DIV PRO UNIT
56. SUB MAHESH SINGH, 11 PARA (SF)
57. NK DHIREN SINHA, 166 INF BN (TA)
58. SEP SANJIT KUMAR BARMAN, 166 INF BN (TA)
59. RFN S S LOMCHU CHANG, 44 ASSAM RIF
60. LT COL JIGMET SINGAY, 2 LADAKH SCOUTS
61. MAJ SAURAV DEOPA, 20 MADRAS
62. MAJ SUHAIL SHAHNAWAZ, SIGS, 666 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
63. NK SUBHANKAR BHOWMIK, 10 ASSAM
64. SEP AIBOK MADUR, 10 ASSAM
65. GNR NIRAJ KUMAR, 219 MED REGT
66. MAJ ROHIT KUMAR, 5 GR, 23 ASSAM RIF
67. SUB ROHOKALE GANESH SHAHURAJ, 21 PARA (SF)
68. NK KH DILIP BABU SINGHA, 21 PARA (SF)
69. LT COL ANUPAM THAPA, MARATHA LI, 52 SAG, NSG
70. MAJ NITIN KUMAR TYAGI, ARTY, 39 (I) R&O FLT
71. CAPT B SREEVIJAY NAIR, AMC, GARHWAL SCOUTS
72. LT PUSHPENDRA PAYAL, ASC, GARHWAL SCOUTS
73 SUB LALREM THANG HMAR, 7 ASSAM
74. NB SUB SURJEET SINGH, 418 (I) FD COY
75. NK KAMAL JOSHI, 7 ASSAM
76. LT COL VIKRAMJIT SINGH, 23 (I) R&O FLT
77. MAJ GANGESH KUMAR, 23 (I) R&O FLT
78. NK TULSING BAGALE, 1/1 GR
79. CAPT ADITYA SINGH, 19 RAJPUT
80. NB SUB SURJEET SINGH, 19 RAJPUT
81. SPR MAHESH N WALI, ENGRS, 126 RCC (GREF)
82. COL KRISHAN SINGH RAWAT, SC, SM, 1 PARA (SF)
83. LT COL RAVI DHILLON, 21 FD AMN DEPOT
84. LT COL PRAVEEN KUMAR, 18 KUMAON
85. MAJ ANIL KUMAR, 138 MED REGT
86. MAJ DHOMNEY PRASHEEL PRAVIN, 19 MADRAS
87. MAJ IK AIMSON INPUI, 25 MADRAS
88. MAJ SUBHASH CHAND GHILDIYAL, 9 PUNJAB
89. MAJ PRADYUMAN SINGH BHATI, 9 PARA (SF)
90. MAJ JERRY BLAIZE, MADRAS, 25 RR
91. CAPT ADHIRAJ SINGH RAWAT, 9 PARA (SF)
92. CAPT ANAND PRATAP SINGH, 2 PARA (SF)
93. CAPT ARJIT KUTLEHRIA, 4 PARA (SF)
94. CAPT ASHISH PATHAK, 16 SIKH LI
95. CAPT MANISH YADAV, 5 JAK LI
96. LT ARVIND CHAUHAN, 8 MADRAS
97. LT PRATEEK JETHANANDANI, 22 MED REGT
98. SUB KUNDAN SINGH, 10 PARA (SF)
99. NB SUB RAJENDRA PRASAD, 4 PARA (SF)
100. RHM SURENDRA SINGH, 65 MED REGT
101. HAV RAJKUMAR M, 76 FD REGT
102. HAV BABULAL PRAJAPAT, 403 LT AD REGT (COMP)
103. HAV SANDEEP SINGH, 27 PUNJAB
104. HAV GANESH BAHADUR SHRESTHA, 3/8 GR
105. HAV LAXMAN GURUNG, 7/8 GR
106. HAV RABIN RAI, 5/11 GR
107. NK AMIT SINGH JASROTIA, 9 PARA (SF)
108. NK KRISHNA CHAUHAN, GRENADIERS, 12 RR
109. NK PANKAJ SHARMA, RAJPUT, 23 RR
110. NK MANOJ SINGH BISHT, 9 PARA (SF)
111. NK PRITAM SINGH KALAS, 6 JAK LI
112. L/NK YOGESH SINGH, 9 PARA (SF)
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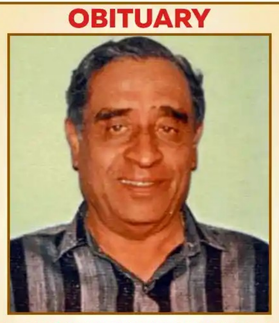

Mr. JAISHEEL RAJAN SHESHADRI
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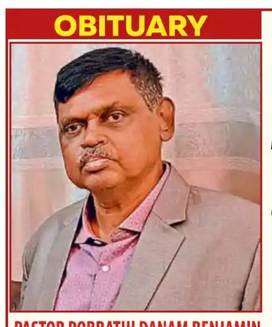

PASTOR POBBATHI DANAM BENJAMIN
Ex-Director DGAQA, Ministry of Defence
03-Sept-1957 - 14th-Aug-2025.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord... they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them." – Revelation 14:13
PASTOR POBBATHI DANAM BENJAMIN
Ex-Director DGAQA, Ministry of Defence
It pleased to the Lord to call home His dear son "Pobbati Danam Benjamin" away from the world of suffering, trails and pain to be awaken healed and whole in his Eternal home.
Church viewing: 15th Aug 2025, 2 pm.
Mount Zion Pentecostal Church Ulsoor.
Followed by burial at 15th Aug 2025, 4 pm. Hosur Road Cemetery Gate No.4.
In grief : Mrs. Elizabeth, Rachel & Rajath
Contact number: 9686874269.

2 tigers spotted on Mysuru outskirts

MYSURU, DHNS: Two tigers were allegedly spotted on outskirts of Mysuru, on Aloka Road, near Yelwala on Wednesday night. A video of a tiger near the border of social forest, is viral on social media. Forest department officials said camera traps will be installed to monitor movement of tigers.

INSIPID I-DAY FOR THEM

Pride in peril: Staff at Hubballi's khadi tricolour unit flag concerns

Khadi version loses market to other fabrics after flag code amendment

MANJUNATH HEGDE BOMNALLI
HUBBALLI, DHNS

Women stitch khadi bags at the national flag production centre at Bengeri in Hubballi, with sales of khadi flags seeing a steep fall in the last few years. DH PHOTO/GURU HABIB

For the first time in two decades of her association with the national flag production centre in Hubballi, Ruksanabegum Raichur along with other workers, is stitching khadi bags instead of tricolours ahead of this Independence Day.

Unlike the corresponding period of earlier years, flag production here has come to a kind of temporary halt as the stocks are huge, while sales have plummeted.

Formerly, the centre run by the Karnataka Khadi Gramodyaga Samyukta Sangha (Federation) at Bengeri here was the only khadi flag production unit in the country authorised by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

Not withdrawing the amendment to the Flag Code of India in 2021-22, which allowed the use of polyester flags and machine-made flags ahead of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations, is being blamed for this situation, as polyester flags are cheaper and easily available in the market.

"We used to work overtime (OT) till a couple of years back, and we used to be too busy here ahead of Independence Day. We did not do OT last year. Our monthly earnings have come down from Rs 10,000 to Rs 4,000," said Ruksanabegum.

According to KKGSS secretary Shivanand Mathapati, the amendment to the flag code has resulted in less sales of BIS-certified hand-woven and hand-spun khadi flags.

"A large portion of our annual sales was before Independence Day. We flag stocks worth Rs two crore now, and major orders are not coming. Workers are engaged in stitching khadi bags for their livelihood," he said.

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the union government have been urged to take steps to withdraw the amendment to the flag code, Mathapati said.

"The situation has put a question mark on the very future of the national flag production centre here," he noted, adding that the impact would also be on weavers in Bagalkot district who supply khadi cloth to the centre.

While the KKGSS' centre with 22 workers (21 women) is authorised to produce flags (nine sizes) as per BIS standards since 2004-05, Dharwad Taluk Garag Kshetriya Seva Sangh (DTGKSS) at Garag near Dharwad got BIS licence in 2023 to produce khadi flags of 2x3 feet size.

The khadi flag has been a symbol of values that guided the freedom struggle and self-reliance through cottage industries.

"A polyester flag (2X3 feet) costs less than Rs 400, while khadi flag with ISI mark is priced at Rs 1,050, resulting in less demand for the latter," DTGKSS chairman I D Itagi said.

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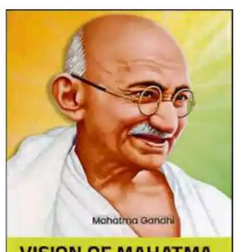

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4. ANITA BELLAD
for PID No 82/1/741 with no DA 80/KTR 209/10-11 dated 11/01/2010, for which we have lodged a police complaint (complaint no - 1741528/2025) on 07/08/2025. If found, please contact 9916547951/ 9886330030 or email yr.sudheendra@onlineinstruments.com/accounts@onlineinstruments.com, or return to #741, Sri Krishna Temple Road, Indiranagar 1st Stage, Bengaluru - 560038.

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Change of Name

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Shravya, D/o Krishnaprasad Bhat, residing at "Shreechakra Kemmolli", Kabbinale Village & Post, Hebri Taluk, Udupi Dist-576112, have changed my name to SHRAVYA K BHAT vide affidavit dated 02.08.2025 before notary Padmaprasad Jain N, Udupi Dist.

I, VARSHA D/O Anand Maradeppa Hebbal residing at No 22 Sector A Ramaiah Reddy Colony Basavanagar Marathalli Bengaluru-560037, have changed my name to Varsha Anand Hebbal vide affidavit dated 11- Aug- 2025 at Bengaluru.

I, KASHYAP RAJASHEKARA R/o, #186, 2 'A' Cross, Ramakrishna Garden, New BEL Road, Bengaluru-54 have changed my name as KASHYAP RAJASHEKAR vide affidavit dated 9/08/2025 before notary R. Basavaraja, Bengaluru

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50 dead, 120 hurt as massive cloudburst hits J&K's Kishtwar

J&K mishap, from Page 1

Additional reinforcements and medical teams are on standby, but the remoteness of the location and damages to approach roads have slowed the flow of updates. Helicopters have been pressed into service to ferry critically injured pilgrims to district hospitals, reports added.

"Rescue teams are on the ground, but the terrain is extremely challenging. We are focusing on evacuating survivors and providing immediate medical aid," a senior official said.

Videos from the site showed panic-stricken pilgrims being hurriedly evacuated from the yatra's starting point and makeshift camps being flattened by the gushing waters.

Rescue agencies have warned that the toll is likely to rise as debris is cleared and more areas become accessible. "We are racing against time to find survivors. Every minute counts," an SDRF officer involved in the operation said.

Don't want to go to jail for denotifying land for PRR project: Shivakumar

State cannot afford to borrow Rs 27k crore for the project, says Deputy CM

BENGALURU, DHNS

Participating in a discussion on the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) in Bengaluru initiated by BJP MLC H S Gopinath, Deputy Chief Minister said that he would not risk going to jail by denotifying the land required for the ambitious project.

Reminding the Legislative Council that the notification for the PRR was issued in 2005-06, Shivakumar said, "But no government denotified the land for the project. I don't want to go to jail by denotifying the land. This is the stance that both the state government and I have taken on the issue."

Underscoring the need to ensure that finances for the PRR project are efficiently managed, the Deputy CM said, "We cannot afford to borrow Rs 27,000 crore for the project. We welcome any suggestions for managing the financial burden of this project. There are about 5,000 houses on the land notified for the project, and we need to decide what action is to be taken."

Karanth Lyt: State losing Rs 1K cr annually: DCM

Meanwhile, the state government is incurring a loss of Rs 1,000 crore annually as a consequence of the Supreme Court's ruling on the Shivaram Karanth Layout, the Deputy CM added.

"The layout was developed at a cost of Rs 7,000 crore, but we have not been able to hand over the sites to the owners since the court has asked the government to maintain status quo. The government is losing Rs1,000 crore every year as a result. We are discussing the issue with the Advocate General. Although notification for the land for the layout was issued 15 years ago, farmers are yet to receive compensation for the land they parted with. I am confident the courts will clear the issue quickly."

'Will act against corrupt officials'

The Deputy CM assured members of the Council that action would be initiated against officials involved in the development of the Kempegowda Layout if they are found guilty of corruption.

Replying to a question by MLC Javarayee Gowda who alleged irregularities in the land acquisition process for the Kempegowda Layout, Shivakumar said, "Give me details of officials who have accepted bribes, and I will sack them by evening."

Tunnel road only option to address traffic problem, claims DKS

Deadline for tender process to be extended

BENGALURU, DHNS

Justifying the Bengaluru tunnel Road Project, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday told the Legislative Council that it was 'the only option' to address the traffic problem in the city.

Responding to a question by BJP member C T Ravi, Shivakumar said, "Road widening is impossible in Bengaluru. Nobody is ready for road widening. Flyovers and Metro have been done. We have done a traffic survey. There's no other option but a tunnel."

He further stated that the government cannot afford the prohibitive cost of land acquisition, paying double rates to the property owners.

"Most of the properties in Bengaluru have a value of more than Rs 10,000 per sqft," he mentioned.

He said the deadline for participating in the tender is also likely to be postponed, as many have expressed interest in participating in the tender process.

D K Shivakumar

Shivakumar informed the House that the government has worked on it for almost one and a half years.

"The project will be on a 60:40 basis. The government is providing 40% of the cost, and the (participating) company will bring in 60% of the cost under viability gap funding. The company will be allowed to collect toll charges," he stated.

About the land acquisition cost, he said Rs 800 crore is needed for private land acquisition and most of the properties are government properties.

Responding to allegations of an inflated price for the project compared to the similar project executed in other states, he said, "The diameter of the tunnel road was double that of metro tunnels and cannot be compared. Some have criticised me. I want to make it clear, I am not looking at business or finance. I have come to Bengaluru with passion. I want to leave a legacy, and I am open to any investigation."

Claiming that Bengaluru Tunnel Road will be the biggest, Shivakumar said, "No need to compare this with tunnel roads in other cities. If you compare it with other major tunnel projects, such as the Gaimukh tunnel, the Orange gate tunnel of Mumbai, our cost is much cheaper than those projects' costs. In both these tunnels, the per-kilometre cost is Rs 1,316 crore, while our tunnel road cost per kilometre is only Rs 770 crore per kilometre," he added.

'My children criticise me for B'luru traffic'

During the debate, Deputy Chief Minister Shivakumar said that he is getting questioned even by his children about the traffic issue. "While crossing Hebbal, even judges call us and blast for the traffic menace. Even at my home, my children criticise me for Bengaluru traffic," he said.

Rajanna's removal is party's internal matter: CM

BENGALURU DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Thursday that removal of K N Rajanna from the Cabinet is "internal matter" of the ruling party.

Leader of the Opposition in the Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy raised the issue by asking the chief minister Why Rajanna was removed from the Cabinet. Chairman of the House Basavaraj Horatti said, "When this question was raised the other day, the Leader of the House said that it is the discretion of the government to retain or remove someone. I have closed that matter and it cannot be discussed again."

However, the BJP members insisted for an answer from the chief minister, who decided to step out of the House. The BJP members asked him not to evade a reply, which prompted Siddaramaiah return to his seat. Narayanaswamy said it was the culture of the Congress to mistreat Dalits.

"This is not our culture—it's your culture. Didn't Dhankar resign? Did you discuss it? When Yediyurappa resigned as chief minister, did anyone give a reason? Why did you expel Yatnal from the party—did you explain? All these are internal matters of the party. There is no need to tell you, " Siddaramaiah said, as he walked out of the House.

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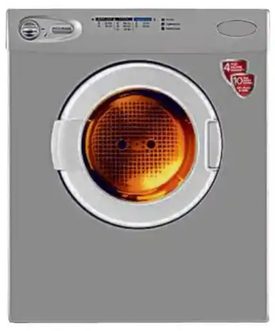
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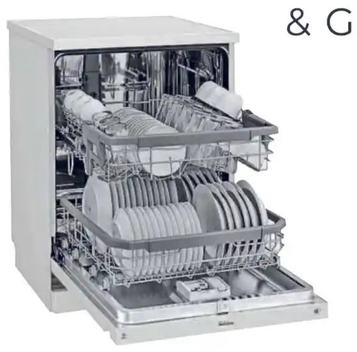
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BUY ANY KITCHEN APPLIANCE & GET

FLAT 70% OFF*
*ON PURCHASE OF ZEBRONICS SMART WATCH WORTH ₹3,999

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FLAT 75% OFF*
*ON PURCHASE OF ZEBRONICS SMART WATCH WORTH ₹11,500

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ANDRAHALLI 95918 35070 | ANEKAL 9036289556 | ATTIBELE 99009 77747 | BAGEPALLI 9036289562 | BANASHANKARI 9035499199 | BANNERGHATTA ROAD 9035422500 | BHARTIYA MALL 9036289560 | BIDADI 8792565415 | BRIGADE ROAD 9035499066 | CHANNAPATNA 9035023186 | CHIKKABALLAPURA 9591561669 | CHIKKAJALA 95918 32080 | CHINTAMANI 90362 89552 | DODDABALLAPURA 77602 12888 | GANDHINAGAR 90354 99311 | GAURIBIDANUR 90354 99244 | GUBBI 9035027688 | HEBBAGODI 90350 50023 | HESARAGHATTA MAIN ROAD 90362 89551 HIRIYUR 9035023185 | HOSKOTE 9036289545 | HOSUR 04344 243633 | HOSUR ROAD 90354 99022 | HRBR LAYOUT 90354 99177 | INDIRANAGAR 9035499255 | JALAHALLI CROSS 90082 20804 | JAYANAGAR 90354 99077 | K R PURAM 90199 29881 | KANAKAPURA ROAD 90082 20739 | KATHRIGUPPE 90354 99288 | KENGERI 99009 77712 | KGF 95917 98130 | KOLAR 90082 20791 | KORAMANGALA 90354 11200 | KUNIGAL 90362 89546 | MADANAYAKANAHALLI 90362 89550 | MAGADI ROAD 90362 89557 | MALAVALLI 8792553793 | MALLESHWARAM 90354 99233 | MALUR 9036984484 | MARATHALLI 90354 99011 | MATHIKERE 90352 22377 | MYSORE ROAD 90354 99188 | NAGARABHAVI 90354 99191 | NELAMANGALA 9606922798 | R T NAGAR 91080 65665 | RAJAJINAGAR 9035499144 | RAMANAGARA 9606922697 | SADASHIVNAGAR 9035499088 | SAHAKARANAGAR 90199 29882 | SARJAPURA 95911 03536 | SIRA 9035023188 | TIPTUR 90362 89548 | TUMAKURU 90082 18009 | VIJAYANAGAR 96069 22795 | YELAHANKA 9036001315

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Celebrity status does not elevate an accused above the law: SC

'Influence, resources, social status can't be basis for bail'

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Thursday said celebrity status neither elevates an accused above the law nor entitles him to preferential treatment in matters like the grant of bail, as popularity cannot be a shield for impunity.

"No individual – however wealthy, influential, or famous – can claim exemption from the rigours of law. Influence, resources and social status cannot form a basis for granting bail where there is a genuine risk of prejudice to the investigation or trial," a bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan said.

In its judgement setting aside bail granted to Kannada actor Darshan in a murder case, the court said mere absence of written grounds does not ipso facto render the arrest illegal, unless it results in demonstrable prejudice to the accused or denial of a fair opportunity to defend.

The court said the constitutional and statutory framework mandated that the arrested person must be informed of the grounds of arrest, but neither provision prescribes a specific form nor insists upon written communication in every case.

Written and individualised grounds are not an inflexible requirement in all circumstances, the court declared.

The court also said that a delay in furnishing the grounds of arrest cannot, by itself, constitute a valid ground for the grant of bail.

The court pointed out that judicial precedents have clarified that substantial compliance with these requirements is sufficient, unless demonstrable prejudice is shown.

"While Section 50 CrPC is mandatory, the consistent judicial approach has been to adopt a prejudice-oriented test when examining alleged procedural lapses. The mere absence of written grounds does not ipso facto render the arrest illegal, unless it results in demonstrable prejudice or denial of a fair opportunity to defend," the bench said.

The Karnataka High Court, in its order on December 13, 2024, relied heavily on the alleged procedural lapse as a determinative factor while overlooking the gravity of the offence under Section 302 IPC and the existence of a prima facie case, it said.

"No material has been placed on record to establish that any prejudice was caused due to the alleged procedural lapse. In the absence of demonstrable prejudice, such as irregularity is, at best, a curable defect and cannot, by itself, warrant release on bail," the bench said.

The court held that the High Court's reliance on Pankaj Bansal and Prabir Purkayastha judgments is misplaced, as those decisions turned on materially different facts and statutory contexts.

"The approach adopted here is inconsistent with the settled principle that procedural lapses in furnishing grounds of arrest, absent prejudice, do not ipso facto render custody illegal or entitle the accused to bail," the bench said.

The judgement also emphasised that courts are not expected to render findings on the merits of the case at the bail stage, as appreciation of evidence at the bail stage is impermissible.

It also highlighted that mere filing of a charge-sheet does not confer an indefeasible right to bail. Likewise, the mere prospect of a prolonged trial cannot, by itself, outweigh the gravity of the offence, the incriminating material gathered during investigation, or the likelihood of tampering with witnesses.

The court also pointed out that, post-bail, good conduct of the accused, while relevant to the question of continuation of bail, cannot retrospectively validate an otherwise unsustainable order.

The court also underscored that while cancellation of bail is a serious matter involving deprivation of personal liberty, the law does permit annulment of a bail order that is unjustified, legally untenable, or passed without due regard to material considerations.

A file photo of Actor Darshan.

A murder & its chequered aftermath

2024

June 9: Renukaswamy's body was found near a stormwater drain in Sumanahalli, Bengaluru.

June 10: Four people surrender to police, claiming to have murdered Renukaswamy over a financial dispute. On further investigation, police uncover the role of actor Darshan and Pavitra Gowda

June 11: Darshan arrested from Mysuru. Pavitra also arrested from her residence

August: Darshan was moved to Ballari jail after a photo of him smoking, accompanied by other jail inmates and a video of him making a video call from within the prison surfaced

September: Bengaluru police file charge sheet, naming Pavitra as A1 (accused number 1), Darshan as A2 and 15 others.

October 30: High Court grants Darshan six-week interim bail to get treatment for backache.

December 13: High Court grants bail to Darshan, Pavitra and five others

2025

January: Bengaluru city police challenge in Supreme Court the bail granted to Darshan, others

May 30: Sessions court allows Darshan to travel abroad for film shoot

August 14: Supreme Court cancels bail granted to Darshan, Pavitra and five others

No one above law, says home minister

BENGALURU, DHNS: Home Minister G Parameshwara on Thursday said that no one was above the law, moments after Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa was arrested by police following the cancellation of his bail by the Supreme Court.

G Parameshwara

"We have to respect the Supreme Court's judgment. The state government's appeal has been upheld by the Supreme Court. They have options to fight as per the law. The ADGP Prisons has already received directions following the observations of the Supreme Court," Parameshwara said.

He said that the government won't give any directions regarding the case.

"The jail authorities will decide on where the accused will be lodged. We won't give any directions regarding that," Parameshwara added.

Faith in judiciary up: Renukaswamy's father

CHITRADURGA, DHNS: "The cancellation of Darshan's bail has increased our faith in the legal system and judiciary. We are hopeful that justice will be served for our son's death,' said Renukaswamy's father Kashinathaya Shivanagoudar.

Speaking to reporters on Thursday, he said, "We are devastated by the loss of our son. We are happy that the bail of the accused has been cancelled. Darshan's family has come to our house and spoke to us. There were false rumors that he had given money. No one should spread news that hurts our feelings."

Fans flock to Darshan's home to pledge support

'Will support him regardless of the final outcome'

PUSHKAR V
BENGALURU, DHNS

Although shocked by the Supreme Court's order cancelling their idol's bail, fans of Darshan Thoogudeepa fans of the Kannada film star flocked to his house in Raja Rajeshwari Nagar in Bengaluru to express their unstinting support.

Darshan, along with some of his associates and friend Pavithra Gowda, had been arrested in connection with the brutal murder of Chitradurga-based Renukaswamy in June 2024.

Although Darshan, Pavithra and 15 others were granted bail by the High Court, the Supreme Court overturned the order on Thursday, prompting police to take Darshan back into custody.

As news of his arrest spread, fans in huge numbers gathered outside Darshan's home to catch a glimpse of him.

Actor Darshan's fans outside his house in Rajarajeshwari Nagar in Bengaluru on Thursday. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

'Will always stand by him'

Manju, an autodriver, who was at Raja Rajeshwari Nagar on Thursday, expressed his sadness over the turn of events.

"I don't think he has done anything wrong. I come here every alternate day to catch a glimpse of DBoss (fans' moniker for Darshan). I even shook his hand last week. Fans will always be with him," he said.

A 19-year-old student, a diehard fan of Darshan, said, "The actor had to send a message to people that there will be consequences for one's actions and he is not wrong. I will support him regardless of the final outcome."

Meanwhile, a fan who had come all the way from Hassan reasoned that the Supreme Court had only ruled against the bail order.

"He (Darshan) will eventually win the case. Even if he doesn't, his true fans will stand by him," the fan said.

Neighbours and onlookers also packed into the small lanes in Raja Rajeshwari Nagar leading to Pavithra Gowda's home. One of Pavithra's neighbours, however, pointed out that none was above the law.

"If she has committed a mistake, she has to face the consequences," the neighbour told *DH*.

'Will not issue threats'

No true fans of Darshan would ever issue threats and crude messages, said a 27-year-old Darshan fan from Kanakapura, referring to the recent controversy that erupted after actress Ramya received death threats for her statements on the case.

Police arrest Pavithra Gowda, the accused number 1 in Renukaswamy murder case, from her Rajarajeshwari Nagar residence, in Bengaluru on Thursday.
DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Verdict splits netizens vertically, fans pray for 'good times', others hail justice

BENGALURU, DHNS

As the Supreme Court's decision to cancel actor Darshan's bail came out, his fans started expressing their solidarity and supportive messages flooded social media platforms.

Sharing his older videos, many of them posted that they will stand by the actor, come what may.

"Then, now and forever, we fans are always with him," one of them posted on X.

Many others called it a sad day for all his fans and opined that times will change in his favour.

"Let's wait for the good time. Good time or Bad time.. Always with our Darshan DBoss," one of the X posts said.

However, a large number of people said the SC decision was right and it had upheld justice.

"First Prajwal Revanna and now Darshan, my trust in Judiciary and Karnataka Police is increasing day by day," a user by name @DrJain21 posted.

Many others echoed the opinion, saying that the court order had reinstated their trust in the judiciary.

Given the huge number of posts, supporting his arrest and cancellation of bail, many of the fan pages urged Darshan's supporters to stay calm to avoid clashes. "It is a bad phase for Darshan. The more we react, it will only harm our hero. Let's all stay calm and wait for good times," one of the fan pages posted.

Keep faith, there's light at end of tunnel, says Ramya

BENGALURU, DHNS: Everybody is equal before the law, actor-politician Ramya/Divya Spandana stressed on her Instagram story, reacting to the Supreme Court cancelling actor Darshan's bail in the Renukaswamy murder case.

Ramya, who has been advocating for justice in the Renukaswamy murder case, wrote on Instagram, "The SC judgement today on setting aside bail to Darshan and others in the Renukaswamy murder case sends out a strong message — ALL ARE EQUAL BEFORE LAW." (sic)

She added: "To the rest of us, I'd like to say — follow due process, keep faith in the justice system — it's long and hard, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. Do not take the law into your own hands; justice will be served. Most importantly, stay true to your conscience."

'The Devil' to hit theatres as planned

The actor completed shooting for 'The Devil', a film directed by Prakash Veer when he was out on bail for approximately nine months, granted by the Karnataka High Court last year.

The film's first song, titled 'Idre nemdiyaag irbek' (One should live peacefully), which was scheduled to be released on Friday for Independence Day, will now not be released, according to a post on X by the film's music banner, Saregama South. The Devil is slated for an October-end release.

"There is no change in that. It will be released as planned," said an industry source.

There have been no updates so far about the Tharun Sudhir directorial, a biopic of the revolutionary freedom fighter Sindhura Lakshmana. To be produced by Shylaja Nag's and B Suresha's Media House Studio, it was announced early last year.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ALAND
Kalaburagi District, Kalaburagi
E-mail: ka.aland.tmc@gmail.com www.alandatown.mrc.gov.in

No.TMC Aland/SBM 2.0/2023-24 Date: 13.08.2025

-: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION :-

The Chief Officer, TMC Aland Dist Kalaburagi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 rules 2000 through E-Procurement 2.0 Portal in two cover system using KW-3 document from Service Labour contractors for Outsource Project Kalaburagi District works as detailed below:-

1) Description of Work: **Outsource Manpower for Loaders-8, Driver-10, Sanitary Supervisor-1,Watchman-1 and JCB Opertors-1 for TMC Aland**, 2) Amount put to Tender (Rs. In Lakhs) : **55.48**, 3) EMD Amount (Rs): **110960.00**, 4) Class of Contractor: Service Contractor, 5) Period of Completion:345 Days from the date of award.

Contractors can download and submit the tenders from dated: 29.08.2025 through E-procurement 2.0 portal at **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1) Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: **29.08.2025 up to 5.00 PM,** 2) Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders: **29.08.2025 up to 5.30 PM,** 3) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid : **01.09.2025 at 11.00 AM,** 4) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid: **04.09.2025 at 11.00 AM,**

Postponement of Calender of events (or if any information is only published through e-Procurement 2.0 portal only) and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/- Chief Officer,
DIPR/Kalaburagi/390/KSMC&A/2025-26 **TMC Aland**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (MPED-C), N.R.Square, BBMP, Bengaluru-560002

No.EE/MPED(C)/QTN/02/2025-26 Date:14.08.2025

SHORT TERM QUOTATION NOTIFICATION FOR RATES
(Through GOK KPP Portal only)

Quotations are invited from the reputed agencies / Suppliers / Distributors /Contractors for the following items. The interested supplier/agencies are requested to submit/upload their quotation through KPP-Portal website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** as detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Particulars	Unit	Qty
A.	**Treatment for Dampness in Stem wall for Dome:**		
1	Surface preparation work.	Sqm	1.00
2	Lime based cement free coloured, pure natural hydraulic lime and Eco-pozzolon based mansory	Sqm	1.00
B.	**Treatment for Deterioratd Lime Mortar Joints in Size Stone Masnory Dome**		
3	Surface preparation work.	Rmt.	1.00
4	Drilling of holes & fixing PVC nozzles	Nos.	1.00
5	Lime based slurry grouting	Kgs.	1.00
C.	**Colourless Water Repellent protection Against Rain for Size Stone Masonry.**		
6	Surface preparation work.	Sqm	1.00
7	Siloxane based water repellent	Sqm	1.00
D.	**water proofing Treatment for Roof Slab**		
8	Surface preparation work.	Sqm	1.00
9	Installation of reinforced TPO Membrane	Sqm	1.00
10	50mm thick screed mortar with waterproofing chemical	Sqm	1.00

1) The quotations are invited for the purpose of budgetary offer for adapting rates in the estimate. **2)** The Quotations must be submitted online through KPPP on or before **22.08.2025 upto 5:30 pm.** and the Quotation shall be opened on **25.08.2025 at 10:30 am.**
3) The terms and conditions of the tender, Specifications and the detailed notification can be obtained from the website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-MPED-Central.

MYSURU CITY CORPORATION, MYSURU
Office of the Executive Engineer, Electrical Division,
VVWW Campus, K.R.S Main Road, Yadavagiri, Mysuru- 570020.

No.: MCC/EE-ELE/TN-07/2025-26 **Date:** 14.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION - 07
(Through Karnataka Public-Procurement Portal Only)

Tenders are invited through Karnataka Public-Procurement portal for the works under General Fund 2024-25 grant as required from Executive Engineer (Electrical) of the Mysuru City Corporation. Details are as follows:

Sl. No.	Description	Total Works	Tender Amount (Rs. In Lakhs)	Date of Publishing on KPP-Portal	Last Date for Submission of Bids	Technical/Financial Bid Opening Date
1.	Tender Works (KW-1)	13	88.04	14.08.2025	21.08.2025	22.08.2025
2.	Re-Tender Works (KW-1 & KW-2)	04	64.715			

Note: Any further Changes/Notifications will be published only through Karnataka Public-Procurement portal only and will not release any paper notification.

Sd/-Executive Engineer (Electrical)
Mysuru City Corporation, Mysuru
DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/799/2025-26

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
Estate Officer, UAS, Raichur

No. EO/UASR/TN-186 /2025-26 Date:11-08-2025

E-Tender Notification

The University of Agriculture Sciences, Raichur has invited tender from reputed Quality Supervision Consultants (QSC) for third party inspection of various Civil / Electrical works in different campuses of University.through kpp portal as per Standard Bid Document KC-8. The details of the notifications and conditions etc., can be had by visiting the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:- (1) Last Date & Time for receipt of Bids :- 26-08-2025 Upto 17:00 hrs. (2) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid:- 28-08-2025 At 10:10 hrs. For more details, please contact the office of the under signed during office hours (Ph. No. 08532 - 220640) and visit the link https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. for detailed tender notification. Also contact helpdesk number: 080 - 25501216 & 080 - 25501227

Sd/- ESTATE OFFICER,
DIP/RCR/332/KSMCA/333/2025-26 **U.A.S, RAICHUR.**

Govt of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI

No: EE/PWD/Klb/Div/TS-4&5/TN/2025-26/2802 Dated: 14.08.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi Invites tender of (KW-1, KW-2 & KW-3) works under 4059 Appendix-E Buildding, MLA, MP LAD & 8443 DCW Total (04) works of Indent No- 23371, 23297, 23172, 22416 in KPPP portal. 2) Estimated Cost : **Estimate cost Min Rs. 10.00 Lakhs Max Rs. 100.00 Lakhs**, 3) Eligibility of Contractor : PWD, Civil Contractor License Class-III and above, 4) Tender fees and EMD details: Application Fees as per KPPP portal EMD Min Rs. 22,000.00 and Max Rs. 2,00,000.00, 5) Pre Bid Meeting: -, 6) Last date for queries: **25/08/2025 upto 17.30 Hrs.** 7) Last date for submission of tender: **26/08/2025 upto 16.00 Hrs**, 8) Date of opening of Technical Bid: **28/08/2025 at 16:30 Hrs**, 9) Date of opening of Financial Bid: **30/08/2025 at 16:30 Hrs**, 10) Enquiries: Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, 11) website : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**, 12) Bidders Should Note That: Note: 1) Undersigned reserves the right to Cancel/ Postpone/Recall/Reject any or all the tenders at any point of time during tender process without assigning any reason. 2) Changes in the tender process, Cancel/ Postpone/Recall/Rejection of tender will not be Published in the News Papers Bidders may get Details of Changes In KPPP Portal Only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/Kalaburagi/393/KSMC&A/2025-26 **PWD Division Kalaburagi**

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BC-Dalit seers' federation condemns Rajanna's ouster

BENGALURU, DHNS: Strongly condemning the removal of K N Rajanna from the state cabinet, the Federation of Backward-Dalit Pontiffs on Thursday warned that the ruling Congress may face a significant blow in future elections if the Madhugiri MLA was not reinstated immediately.

In a statement signed by Valmiki Gurupeeth seer Prasannanandapuri Swami, the Federation appealed to AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, KPCC President D K Shivakumar, and the party's national leadership to resolve the issue at the earliest.

The statement said Rajanna's victory from a general constituency shows his popularity and contribution. His removal has hurt Dalit and backward communities and is viewed as an injustice.

The Federation claimed over 45 lakh members of Bedas, Valmiki, and Nayaka communities see Rajanna as their leader. His exclusion triggered widespread outrage with statewide protests.

The federation also noted that the Congress had won 14 of 15 ST-reserved seats in 2023, while Rajanna won from a general seat. His removal has angered SC, ST, BC, and minority communities statewide.

Bill proposes Rs 2L fine on engr, architect for bldg plan violation

Repeated violations may lead to cancellation of regn, licence

BENGALURU, DHNS

IN THE ASSEMBLY

Registered engineers or architects will be penalised Rs 2 lakh if a building plan prepared or certified by them violates the government-approved design, according to a new Bill tabled in the Assembly on Thursday.

The Karnataka Decriminalisation (Amendment of Provisions) Bill tweaks 12 existing laws for "decriminalising and rationalising offences and to further enhance trust-based governance for ease of living and doing business." This Bill is being piloted by Industries Minister M B Patil.

The Bill amends Section 73 of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act.

"Every engineer or architect registered with a local body and responsible for the preparation, certification, submission, or development of building or layout plans...shall inform the respective owner or developer of the obligation to carry out development or construction strictly in accordance with provisions of the Act and the sanctioned plans," the Bill states.

Violation by the owner or developer will mean Rs 2 lakh penalty on the concerned engineer or architect. "In the event of repeated violations, appropriate proceedings shall be initiated for the cancellation of the registration or license of such engineer or architect," the Bill adds.

The Bill also amends Section 62 of the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Act to omit imprisonment up to six months for various offences such as trespassing on premises connected with water supply, occupation of a house without proper water supply and connecting a private drain with a BWSSB sewer without notice.

The government is proposing a higher penalty on enterprises for violations while implementing industrial projects under the Karnataka Industries (Facilitation) Act. At present, the penalty for the first offence is up to Rs 1 lakh and Rs 2 lakh for the second and subsequent offences. This is being hiked to Rs 2 lakh and Rs 4 lakh, respectively.

In fact, Patil's department has also proposed the Karnataka Employer's Compliance Decriminalisation Bill and Karnataka Employer's Compliance Digitisation Bill under which violations of employment conditions will be decriminalised.

The government is proposing a higher penalty on enterprises for violations while implementing industrial projects under the Karnataka Industries (Facilitation) Act.
PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION

Dharmasthala case: BJP slams govt, demands interim report

Alleges 'leftist smear campaign' to malign temple town

BENGALURU, DHNS

Alleging that there was a " leftist smear campaign" against Dharmasthala and Hindu places of worship, the BJP urged the ruling Congress to submit an interim report during the ongoing Legislature session on the alleged mass burials in the temple town.

Speaking during a discussion in the Legislative Assembly regarding the issue, BJP's Karkala MLA V Sunil Kumar said: "There has been a smear campaign for a few months to malign Dharmasthala. It looks like the government is sympathising. A group is conducting an organised conspiracy."

Citing the DJ Halli – KG Halli controversy, Sunil said an MLA's house and an entire police station was set on fire for a Facebook post defaming an important personality of a religion.

"At the time, Siddaramaiah, who was then the Leader of the Opposition, said that the post hurt religious sentiments and led to setting the police station on fire. How many posts have been put up now?? Why didn't you feel the sentiments of crores hurt by misinformation campaign about Dharmasthala??"

The Karkala MLA said the unidentified complaint/ mask man must be made to undergo a lie-detector test. "The digging has come to the base of the Bahubali Hill and next it will shake your government. The entire Cabinet should go to Dharmasthala and apologise."

BJP's Rajajinagar MLA S Suresh Kumar called the complainant the "most privileged man" and wondered why he wasn't being kept with the SIT at night.

Claiming that the allegations were a "pre-planned conspiracy," Leader of the Opposition Ashoka urged the government to reveal the identity of the masked man.

Heart attacks: Govt plans screening for auto, cab drivers

BENGALURU, DHNS: Stating that heart attacks were more pronounced amongst autorickshaw and cab drivers, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao on Thursday said in the Legislative Assembly that a separate screening would be conducted for them.

The minister was responding to a question by JD(S) Holenarasipur MLA H D Revanna, which was in fact asked by JD(S) MLA A Manju on former's behalf, on "over 41 deaths in Hassan" due to heart attacks.

"According to the data by the Jayadeva institute, 20%-30% people who suffered heart attacks last year are auto and cab drivers. Pollution, lack of sleep, outside food, other habits, having diabetes and blood pressure etc. are the reasons for heart attacks amongst them. The government is specifically talking to auto and cab drivers' associations. We will do a specific screening for them."

In the written reply to Revanna's question, Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil said: "A committee headed by Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research Director Dr Ravindranath was formed to look into the deaths due to heart attack in Hassan. The report has been submitted, which says that over 75% of the people had more than one risk factor for the heart."

Patil explained that these included not having enough physical activity, unhealthy food habits, mental pressure, excessive body weight, excessive drinking, diabetes, blood pressure and family history of heart attacks.

Conceding that a proposal to set up a Cath Lab had been received from the Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences, the minister said the government would act as per availability.

DINESH GUNDU RAO
Health and Family Welfare Minister

"According to the data by the Jayadeva institute, 20%-30% people who suffered heart attacks last year are auto and cab drivers. Pollution, lack of sleep, outside food, other habits, having diabetes and blood pressure etc. are the reasons for heart attacks amongst them.

Track-and-trace mode to plug GST leaks in tobacco products

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Legislative Assembly on Thursday passed a Bill to introduce a track-and-trace mechanism to plug Goods and Services Tax (GST) leakage in tobacco and arecanut products.

"There's a big tax leakage when it comes to tobacco and arecanut products. Pan masala and gukta...there's a huge difference between sales and what's being declared," Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, who represents Karnataka in the GST Council, said.

Gowda was piloting the Karnataka Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill.

The minister said huge quantities of arecanut are dispatched from Sirsi, Honnalli and Davangere in Karnataka. "But they don't match sales. There's an organised nexus. They know by which road to enter Andhra Pradesh, then Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, where processing happens. We can't find them even if we go after them," he said.

KRISHNA BYRE GOWDA
Revenue minister

"Some people are illegally claiming ITC. ITC refund scams are being widely reported. We need to apply a systemic fix for this instead of going after individuals for recovery. Thousands of crores are being claimed

"We're introducing track-and-trace into the value chain. Right from the primary product to the final product, all ingredients will be tracked. Based on that, we can detect the volume of sales. We're bringing enabling provisions for track-and-trace," Gowda said. The Bill also has provisions to curb the misuse of input tax credit (ITC).

"Some people are illegally claiming ITC. ITC refund scams are being widely reported. We need to apply a systemic fix for this instead of going after individuals for recovery. Thousands of crores are being claimed," Gowda said.

"For example, I'll claim that I've purchased something. Without actually purchasing anything, I'll upload it in the system, claim a refund and disappear. We're now saying that the (seller) should say there's been a purchase. We're introducing some amendments for this," the minister said.

The Bill also introduces a 'track-and-trace' mechanism to detect the exact volume of sales for the assessment of tax liability.

Gowda pointed out that all states are required to make these provisions ahead of the next GST Council meeting.

Legal action if complainant proved wrong: HM

Home Minister G Parameshwara told the Assembly that legal action would be initiated against the complainant if what he said was found to be false.

"There'll be an end to it and we will close it. The truth will come out. If what he says is false, can't we take legal action against him? The new Bharatiya Nyaya Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) has provided opportunities for that. Whoever makes false allegations and says false things can be punished." "We just want to know the truth. Have any of us interfered with the probe? We have given them a free hand. We didn't call the (SIT) chief. This shouldn't be politicised." The home minister said he would provide an answer on this issue on Monday.

No more physical passes: Vidhana Soudha goes digital

BENGALURU, DHNS: In a bid to simplify and streamline the admission process and public access, the state government on Thursday launched an online system for issuing visitor passes to Vidhana Soudha and Vikasa Soudha, replacing the earlier physical admit card method.

Previously, visitors had to collect entry passes in person from reception centres at Gopalagowda Circle and near Devaraj Urs Statue. The new system, now active, allows visitors to apply via the Karnataka One mobile app, available on the Google Play Store, a statement released by the CMO said.

RVD rues missing 'seniority' debate, says Siddu 'forgot' to mention him

Recalls contesting 10 elections, winning 9 & working with 8 CMs

BENGALURU, DHNS

Veteran politician R V Deshpande on Thursday continued the banter on legislative seniority by asserting his seniority and expressed his support for his long-time friend, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

"It was my mistake that I couldn't attend the session yesterday. While watching on TV, the discussion on seniority, I hoped that my good friend Siddaramaiah would mention my name. He may have forgotten. I stood for 10 elections and won nine. I have worked with 8 chief ministers. I was the right-hand man of Ramakrishna Hegde and S R Bommai. I was very close to Deve Gowda, J H Patel, SM Krishna, Dharam Singh, Siddaramaiah and H D Kumaraswamy," he said.

Deshpande

The Haliyal MLA first entered the Assembly in 1983, and has since won every election, except 2008.

"With a pro-poor and pro-marginalised approach, Siddaramaiah has brought many programmes, done development works. He has completed a five-year term and is trying to finish another five-year term."

When the BJP sought more clarification, Deshpande said he wasn't a competitor to Siddaramaiah and pledged his support to the CM.

Sharanabasappa Appa passes away at 90

KALABURAGI, DHNS: The 8th peetadhipathi of Sharanabasaveshwara Sansthan Dr Sharanabasappa Appa (90) passed away here on Thursday night.

He is survived by wife Dakshayani Appa, seven daughters and son.

He made a mark in the religious as well as education fields and started Sharanabasava Residential Public School and Appa Public School.

Sharanabasappa Appa

The Sharanabasava Residential Public School opened the doors for professional education to thousands of students of Kalyana Karnataka.

He completed his post-graduate degree from Karnataka University, Dharwad, and was later a syndicate member there.

He exerted pressure on the government to start a post-graduate centre of the varsity in Kalaburagi.

Later, Appa served as the chairman of the committee appointed by the government to identify land and other facilities for a new university there.

After Appa's ascension as 8th peethadhipathi and president of Sharanabasava Vidyavardhaka Sangha in 1983, he introduced quality education.

Over the years, the Sharanabasava University has emerged as a major centre of excellence that offers greater scope for research activities.

Appa has been credited with starting the first specialised engineering college for women in North Karnataka.

Also, women staff outnumber men in his educational institutions.

Cabinet meet on internal quota deferred to Aug 19 amid data disputes

BENGALURU, DHNS: The special cabinet meeting scheduled for August 16 to discuss Justice H N Nagamohan Das's report on internal reservation among Scheduled Castes (SCs), has been postponed to August 19.

The report was formally accepted in the August 7 cabinet session, during which copies were distributed to ministers. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah directed them to study it thoroughly and prepare for the special discussion.

However, the report has triggered strong opposition from SC-Right (Chalavadi and allied) castes, while SC-Left (Madiga-related) groups have hit the streets demanding its immediate implementation.

A meeting of Dalit ministers was held on Wednesday night at Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara's residence, attended by Dr H C Mahadevappa and K H Muniyappa. Parameshwara said the ministers had previously planned to meet and discuss the report collectively. They resolved to handle differences internally and requested the Chief Minister to postpone the meeting to address issues.

Simultaneously, Imamadi Siddarameshwara Swami of the Bhovi Gurupeeth submitted a memorandum to the CM, urging that scientific data be used to create a separate category for the Bhovi community.

The seer pointed out that the report overstates the SC population and understates the Bhovi population. He highlighted data mismatches between the 2011 Census and another survey and said corrections should wait until the 2026 Census. He also said Bhovis were wrongly placed in the advanced category.

'Mass burials': One more missing complaint lodged with SIT

MANGALURU, DHNS: A fresh complaint was filed on Thursday before the SIT probing alleged mass burials in Dharmasthala, claiming that a 17-year-old girl went missing in Dharmasthala in 2015. Nithin, who submitted the complaint at SIT office in Belthangady, said that his sister Hemavathi, accompanied by a woman, had set out to visit Dharmasthala 10 years ago, but had not returned home till today.

Digging at new location

No human remains were found at the end of digging by SIT at a new location near Kanyadi - identified by the complainant witness.

Two from state win President's medal for distinguished service

22 selected for medal for meritorious service

BENGALURU, DHNS

Two police officers from Karnataka have been chosen for the President's Medal for Distinguished Service.

In addition, 18 police and three fire officers from the state, and a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) constable posted in Bengaluru have been awarded the Medal for Meritorious Service (MMS).

Suresh S, Deputy Inspector General, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Bengaluru, and S Badrinath, Superintendent of Police, Karnataka Lokayukta, are the recipients of the President's Medal for Distinguished Service.

A 1996-batch officer, Suresh has served in the Maoist-hit Bastar and Gadchiroli, Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeast, and had a brief stint with the Anti-terror National Security Guards (NSG). He currently heads the CRPF's elite Dog Breeding and Training School in Bengaluru.

Badrinath is currently SP (Coordination and Training) in the Karnataka Lokayukta, Bengaluru.

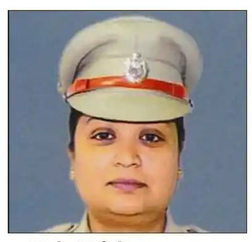
Across India, 1,090 police, fire, home guard and civil defence, and correctional service officers have been awarded gallantry and service medals on Independence Day 2025.

Suresh S

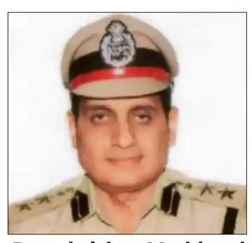
S Badrinath

Chandragupta

K M Shantharaju



Kala Krishnaswamy



Ramakrishna Muddepal

Police service

- Chandragupta, Inspector General of Police, Intelligence Bureau, Bengaluru
- Ramakrishna Muddepal, Commandant, 9th Battalion, KSRP, Bengaluru
- Kallimane Mahadevappa Shantharaju, Superintendent of Police, Internal Security Division (ISD), Bengaluru
- Kala Krishnaswamy, AIGP (Crime), Police Headquarters, Bengaluru
- Venkatesha Narayanappa, Superintendent of Police, ISD, Bengaluru
- Praveen Babu Gurusiddaiah, Inspector, Mahadevapura police station, Bengaluru
- Prakash Rathod, Assistant Commissioner of Police (KG Halli), Bengaluru
- Edwin Pradeep Samson, Inspector, Bescom, Bengaluru
- Satish Sadashivaiah Bettahalli, Inspector, Parappana Agrahara police station, Bengaluru
- Shantharama, Inspector, Nandagudi police station, Bengaluru Rural
- Sujana Shetty, Assistant Sub Inspector, Central Crime Branch, Mangaluru
- Jhansi Rani J, Sub Inspector, State Crime Records Bureau, Bengaluru
- Gururaj Mahadevappa Budihal, Assistant Sub Inspector, ARSI, DPO, Gadag
- Rakesh M J, Head Constable, 4th Battalion, KSRP, Bengaluru
- Shamshuddin, Head Constable, Computer Wing, DPO, Koppal
- Shankar Y, Head Constable, ISD, Bengaluru
- Rakesh Revanasiddappa Alanakar, Head Constable, Police Commissioner's Office, Kalaburagi
- Ravi L, Head Constable, ISD, Bengaluru

Fire service

- Chidanand Parwatayya Hiremath, Leading Fireman, Yadgir
- Mallikarjun Hanamanthgoll, Leading Fireman, Jewargi
- Madhusudhana Thenkanahalli Mollavenkata Bhovi, Leading Fireman, Anjanapura

CBI

- Chitimireddy Suryanarayan Reddy, Head Constable, Bank Securities and Fraud Branch, Bengaluru

Darshan, co-accused sent to jail as SC cancels bail

Darshan, from Page 1

Justice Mahadevan pronounced the order on behalf of the bench, saying the high court's order suffered from perversity for having relied upon witnesses' statements which was prerogative of the trial.

"The order of the high court suffers from serious legal infirmities. It fails to record any special or cogent reasons for granting bail in a case involving charges under Sections 302, 120B, and 34 IPC. Instead, it reflects a mechanical exercise of discretion, marked by significant omissions of legally relevant facts," the bench said.

The court also took a serious view of the VIP treatment granted to the accused inside jail, holding that the actor's antecedents, influence, jail misconduct and the seriousness of the charges against him make him unfit for bail.

In his separate opinion, Justice Pardiwala said the order setting aside the bail was "ineffable" and contained a strong message that the justice delivery system at any level should ensure at any cost that rule of law is maintained.

"No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we ask him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right; not asked a favor. The need of the hour is to maintain the rule of law at all times," he said.

Warning to jail officials

Cautioning jail officials, Justice Pardiwala said: "The day we come to know that the accused persons are provided with some special or five-star treatment within the jail premises, the first step in the process will be to place the jail superintendent and all other officials involved in such misconduct under suspension."

Notably, Darshan was moved to Ballari Central Jail from the Parappana Agrahara in August 2024 after photographs of him were leaked, in which he was seen smoking and hobnobbing with notorious criminals inside the prison.

Senior advocate Sidharth Luthra and advocates Anil C Nishani and D L Chidananda argued the matter for the Karnataka government. Darshan and other accused were represented by Kapil Sibal and other counsels.

In its 66-page judgment, the apex court emphasised that in a democracy governed by the rule of law, no individual is exempt from legal accountability by virtue of status or social capital.

The court also found that the allegations of witness intimidation, coupled with compelling forensic and circumstantial evidence, reinforced the necessity for cancellation of bail.

"The liberty granted under the high court's order poses a real and imminent threat to the fair administration of justice and risks derailing the trial proceedings," the bench said.

Notably, the court pointed out that celebrities served as social role models – accountability is greater, not lesser.

"Granting leniency to such persons, despite grave charges of conspiracy and murder, sends the wrong message to society," the court reasoned.

The court also noted the actor failed to demonstrate that the jail hospital was incapable of managing his health condition or that adequate treatment could not be given in judicial custody.

The court also set aside the bail granted to the co-accused.

Darshan was in Kodagu

CCTV footage earlier in the day showed Darshan's well-known red SUV near the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border. Sources said Darshan was at his friend's farmhouse in Kodagu and had travelled to a village bordering Tamil Nadu to take part in a horse fair. He left for Bengaluru as the news of the SC order broke, the sources said.

He arrived at his wife's apartment at around 4 pm and entered through the back gate in a separate car, hoodwinking television cameras, while his SUV entered through the front door.

Following his arrest, Darshan was escorted to the Annapoorneshwari Nagar police station, where other accused were kept. He wore a mask as he left his wife's apartment in a police jeep.

After the medical examinations were conducted at the police station, the five accused were taken to the judge's residence in Koramangala. Police had made elaborate security arrangements both outside the police station and near the judge's residence as fans of the actor had gathered.

Two other accused — Anu Kumar alias Anu (A7) and Jagadeesh alias Jagga (A6) — were arrested from Chitradurga. They will be produced before the court on Friday, the police said.

'Upload list of 65 lakh deleted Bihar....

Bihar, from Page 1

Dwivedi pointed out that this has been done at the block level, district level and the state level, but the EC cannot use the state government website for putting up the list of people.

The bench suggested that the state election commission can upload it on its website, observing that if the poll body is pasting the names on signboards, there is no reason why it can't have these names along with reasons online.

The court said the EC has said that 22 lakh names out of the 65 lakh have been struck off the list, as they have died. "If 22 lakh people have died, why is it not disclosed at the booth level," the court asked.

The court said the list of 65 lakhs voters whose names appeared in 2025 list but are not included in the draft list shall be displayed on district level websites and aggrieved persons may submit their claims along with a copy of their Aadhaar cards.

Dharmasthala...

Dharmasthala, from Page 1

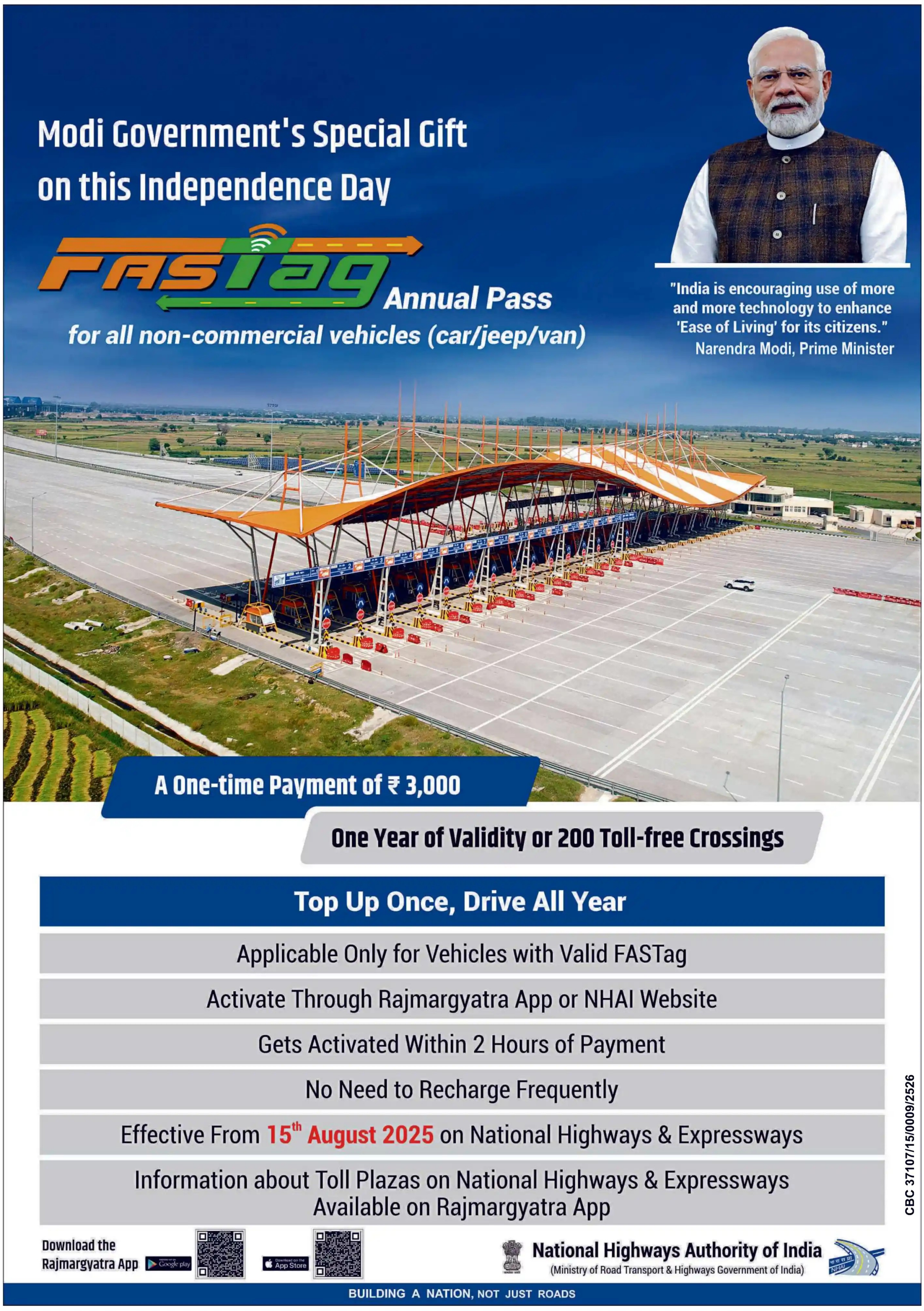
"But this (case) was created out of nothing. I know the entire detail. This case is an empty trunk, which is just making noise."

Shivakumar sneered that a "masked man" (complainant) gave a statement before court (on having buried bodies). "Since the matter was in court, a professional investigation was initiated," he added.

At the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting held on Tuesday, Shivakumar said he and a few other lawmakers sought action against those indulging in slander. "Myself, KM Shivalinge Gowda, Ashok Kumar Rai and Belur Gopalakrishna said in the CLP meeting...we must go deep and take action as per law against those misguiding and slandering. Even the chief minister called for indiscriminate action," he said.

Earlier, Shivakumar spoke about the Dharmasthala case in the Assembly and expressed faith in Veerendra Heggade, the hereditary administrator of the temple town.

"I believe in Dharmasthala. I believe in that temple. I believe in the Dharmadhikari (Veerendra Heggade)," Shivakumar said, urging the opposition BJP not to drag Congress into it.


Modi Government's Special Gift
on this Independence Day
FASTag
Annual Pass
for all non-commercial vehicles (car/jeep/van)
"India is encouraging use of more and more technology to enhance 'Ease of Living' for its citizens."
Narendra Modi, Prime Minister
A One-time Payment of ₹ 3,000
One Year of Validity or 200 Toll-free Crossings
Top Up Once, Drive All Year
Applicable Only for Vehicles with Valid FASTag
Activate Through Rajmargyatra App or NHAI Website
Gets Activated Within 2 Hours of Payment
No Need to Recharge Frequently
Effective From 15th August 2025 on National Highways & Expressways
Information about Toll Plazas on National Highways & Expressways Available on Rajmargyatra App
Download the Rajmargyatra App
Google play
App Store
National Highways Authority of India
(Ministry of Road Transport & Highways Government of India)
BUILDING A NATION, NOT JUST ROADS
CBC 37107/15/0009/2526

PUBLIC NOTICE

One of our Clients intend to purchase all that piece and parcel of Commercial Property morefully described in the '**Schedule**' hereunder and hereinafter referred as '**Schedule Property**' belonging to **Mr. Harish Yechreddy and Mrs. Jyoti Yechreddy ["Owners"].**

Any person or persons, entities including any bank/ societies/ financial institutions, companies, asserting/ having any claim, demand, right, title or interest of any kind over the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner whatsoever whether by way of sale, transfer, assignment, exchange, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, loan, deposit of title deeds, tenancy, sub-tenancy, let, lease, license, inheritance, succession, share, gift, devise, lien, maintenance, bequest, easement, trust, covenant, possession, occupation, family arrangement/settlement, partition, contracts/ agreements, partnership, litigation, Decree, Court Order, Award of any Court of Law, Tribunal, Authority and/or any other fora, acquisition, agreement/s for sale, partnership, other contracts/ agreements or otherwise of any nature whatsoever or having any claim in the Schedule Property or any documents relating thereto or against the Owner or objecting to sale or any transactions by the Owner, should write to the undersigned **within ten (10) days** from the date of this Public Notice, together with documentary proof thereof, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such person or person/s over the Schedule Property or any part thereof shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and no such claims will be deemed to exist and our Clients shall proceed to purchase the Schedule Property, without any impediments and/or reference to such claim/s, demand/s, etc.

SCHEDULE
[SCHEDULE PROPERTY]

ALL THAT piece and parcel of the Commercial Property bearing new **Panchayat Khata No. 210/117P/C6**, an impartible portion of the **Sixth Floor** in '**Tower - C**', having new **RDPR e-PID No. 150200401300820229**, measuring **36,945 Square Feet** of **Super Built up Area** out of 90,920 Square Feet of total Super Built up area, inclusive of a proportionate share in the common areas, together with 58 Open/Covered **Car Parking Spaces** in the Basement/Surface Level of the Commercial Complex, the Building named as "**EINSTEIN**", in the multi- storeyed Commercial Complex named as "**BEARYS GLOBAL RESEARCH TRIANGLE**" and **3.972%** of **Undivided Share**, right, title and interest, **equivalent to 9,895.59 Square Feet**, constructed on the Commercial converted land comprised in **Survey No. 63/3B**, having Khata No. 117 of Doddabanahalli Gram Panchayat, situated at **Goravigere Village**, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk (formerly Hoskote Taluk), Bengaluru District, measuring 5 Acres 29 Guntas (equivalent to 23,168 Square Meters or approximately 2,49,381 Square Feet) and having all the basic amenities provided therein and the entire extent of land on which the multi-storied Commercial Complex has been constructed, is butted and bounded, that is to say, as follows:

On the East by : Whitefield Ashram Road (also known as Hoskote Road and previously Kadugodi Road;
On the West by : Steel Yard Road and Konadasapura Village Boundary (previously Private Property);
On the North by : Property in Survey No. 63/3A owned by Bearys Global Research Triangle Pvt. Ltd.; and
On the South by : Kaji Sonnenahalli Village Boundary and Private Properties.

Through its Advocates
Partha Mandal, Founding Partner
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Ulsoor Road, Bangalore - 560 042
Phone:- +91 80 6761 6000.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 14-08-2025

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
E-TENDER NOTICE E-PROCUREMENT

No. SUR/Sr.DMM/T.No.9625SEJ02 Date: 13.08.2025 Divisional Store Office Central Railway, Solapur for and on Behalf of President of India invites online e-tenders on Railway's e-procurement website **www.ireps.gov.in** from the capable, reputed firms/Contractors for the following works. **Tender No: 9625SEJ02 Sr.No. 1. PL Code (Group):** 96NS6902 **item Type GST (Y/N):** Goods (Y) **Stock/Non-Stock:** Non-Stock **Ordering:** - - **Consider for Eval.:** Yes **Approving Agency:** RDSO **Inspection Agency:** TPI Agency **Currency Allowed:** INR **Estimated Rate:** - - **Description:** Goods, Manufacturing and supply of Improved Switch Expansion Joint (Complete Set) with frm's rail as per RDSO Drawing No. T-6902 (Alt-5/Latest Alt.) with assembly (with all fings) for long welded rail (with 80 mm max. gap) B.G. 60kg (UIC)/60E1 on PSC Sleepers. Confrming to IRS Specifcaaono IRS/T-1 0-2025/ Latest Alt as amended upto date of tender opening [**Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery] [**Quantity Tolerance (+/-):** 0 %age, **Item Category:** Normal, **Total PO value variation Permitted:** Max 8 lacs]] **Consignee:** SSE/P-WAY/STORE **Maharashtra:** 30.00 Set. **UVAM Item ref.:** (Item Id: 3100042 Improved Switch Expansion Joint, Sub Item Id:- 3100042002-Improved Switch Expansion Joint for 80 mm Gap (Max.)) **Inspection Details:** Product Inspection: Stage 1: Metallurgical tesang of heat-treated rails. (100% of PO Qty), Stage 2: Final inspecaon (100% of PO Qty) **Sr.No. 2. PL Code (Group):** 96NS6914 **item Type GST (Y/N):** Goods (Y) **Stock/Non-Stock:** Non-Stock **Ordering:** - - **Consider for Eval.:** Yes **Approving Agency:** RDSO **Inspection Agency:** TPI Agency **Currency Allowed:** INR **Estimated Rate:** - - **Description:** Manufacturing and supply of 52 Kg. Improved Switch Expansion Joint (ISEJ) as per RDSO Drg. No. T-6914 with latest Alteraaon and conforming to RSoT-10-2025 Specifcaaon and gap including rails and fings as per RDSOs Drg No. T-6914 with Alt. 4 excluding ERC MK-V, GFN liner and PSC Sleeper. Latest Alt as amended upto date of tender opening. [**Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery] [**Quantity Tolerance (+/-):** 0%age, **Item Category:** Normal, **Total PO value variation Permitted:** Max 8 lacs]] **Consignee:** SSE/P-WAY/STORE **Maharashtra:** 20.00 Set. **UVAM Item ref.:** (Item Id: 3100042 Improved Switch Expansion Joint, Sub Item Id:- 3100042002-Improved Switch Expansion Joint for 80 mm Gap (Max.)) **Inspection Details:** Product Inspection: Stage 1: Metallurgical tesang of heat-treated rails. (100% of PO Qty), Stage 2: Final inspecaon (100% of PO Qty) **Earnest Money (INR):** Rs.350670.00 **Date & Time of Closing of Tender on www.ireps.gov.in :** 29/09/2025 after 11:30 The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender. Website: **www.ireps.gov.in.** ANJ-61

खतरनाक व विस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

ई० प्रोक्यूरमेंट सेल, कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल संख्या–02, राँची

अल्पकालिन ई–प्रोक्योरमेन्ट नोटिस
ई–टेन्डर रेफरेन्स नं0–05/2025-26/EE/BCD/DIV-2,RANCHI.
दिनांक–15.08.2024

1.	कार्य का नाम	Proposed Expansion of Surveillance System at Jharkhand High Court Campus, Dhurwa, Ranchi.
2.	प्राक्कलित राशि (रू0)	राशि रू0 2,44,14,300/– (दो करोड़ चौवालिस लाख चौदह हजार तीन सौ) रूपये मात्र।
3.	कार्य पूर्ण की अवधि	3 (तीन) माह
4.	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	23.08.2025 को 11:00 बजे
5.	बिड प्राप्ति के लिए अन्तिम तिथि/समय	30.08.2025 को 11:00 बजे तक
6.	निविदा प्रकाशित करने वाले कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल संख्या–02, राँची।
7.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि/समय एवं स्थान	01.09.2025 को 11:30 बजे नोडल पदाधिकारी, ई0 प्रोक्यूरमेंट सेल, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, भवन निर्माण विभाग, लाईन टैंक रोड, झारखण्ड, राँची
7.	प्रोक्योरमेन्ट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क संख्या	6203309676
8.	ई–प्रोक्योरमेन्ट सेल का हेल्पलाईन संख्या	7992430721

9. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है तद्नुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
10. सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी एवं ई–गवर्नेस विभाग, झारखण्ड, सरकार के आदेश ज्ञापांक 120 दिनांक 03.10.2023 के द्वारा निर्गत SOP (मानक संचालन प्रकिया) एवं भवन निर्माण विभाग, झारखण्ड, सरकार के पत्रांक 2229 दिनांक 06.10.2023 के आलोक में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल **Online Mode** द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
11. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, SOP के तहत अग्रधन की राशि उसी खाते में वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी संपूर्ण जवाबदेही निविदादाता की होगी।

- अन्य किसी भी प्रकार के बदलाव की सूचना http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

Note:- UCAN Registration is mandatory for the Bidders.

कार्यपालक अभियंता
भवन निर्माण विभाग,
भवन प्रमण्डल संख्या–02, राँची।

PR.NO.359614 Building(25-26):D

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
E-TENDER NOTICE E-PROCUREMENT

No.SUR/Sr.DMM/T.No.9625GLD01 Date: 13.08.2025 Divisional Store Office Central Railway, Solapur for and on Behalf of President of India invites online e-tenders on Railway's e-procurement website **www.ireps.gov.in** from the capable, reputed firms/Contractors for the following works. **Tender No: 9625GLD01 Sr.No. 1. PL Code (Group):** 96NST671 **item Type GST (Y/N):** Goods (Y) **Stock/Non-Stock:** Non-Stock **Ordering:** - - **Consider for Eval.:** Yes **Approving Agency:** RDSO **Inspection Agency:** TPI Agency **Currency Allowed:** INR **Estimated Rate:** - - **Description:** Manufacture and supply of Glued Insulated Rail Joints 6.5 m long G3(L) type for 52 Kg rails with all fittings as per RDSO Drg. No. T-671 Alt. 13 or latest alteration if any and Specification as per Manual of Glued Insulated Rail Joint (Revised- 2024) or latest if any. (The Alt. in Drawings & specification issued by RDSO up to one month prior to tender opening date shall be applicable in this tender) Note: The responsibility to procure rails will solely lie with the manufacturer (Bid Including Rail cost/per Nos.) in terms of Railway Board letter No. 2022/TrackI(P)/Fabricators dt. 31.07.2023.] [**Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery] [**Quantity Tolerance (+/-):** 0 %age, **Item Category:** Normal, **Total PO value variation Permitted:** Max 8 lacs]] **Consignee:** SSE/P-WAY/STORE **Maharashtra:** 250.00 Numbers. **UVAM Item ref.:** (Item Id:-3100450 - GLUED INSULATED RAIL JOINTS) **Inspection Details:** Stage Inspection Not Required. **Sr.No. 2. PL Code (Group):** 96NS2572 **item Type GST (Y/N):** Goods (Y) **Stock/Non-Stock:** Non-Stock **Ordering:** - - **Consider for Eval.:** Yes **Approving Agency:** RDSO **Inspection Agency:** TPI Agency **Currency Allowed:** INR **Estimated Rate:** - - **Description:** Goods, Fabrication and Supply of Glued Joint for 60kg Rail on PSC Sleeper conforming to RDSO Drg. No. T-2572 (Alt-5) with latest alteration and conforming to Manual of Glued Insulated Rail Joints 2024 with latest alteration amended up to date of tender closing. (Term-latest-wherever used will mean the alteration/ amendments up to the actual date of closing of tender) (Note: Rail of 60E1/R-260 Grade for Glued Joint are to be arranged and supplied by the firm. Details are mentioned in Special condition attached in this tender)]. [**Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery] [**Quantity Tolerance (+/-):** 0 %age, **Item Category:** Normal, **Total PO value variation Permitted:** Max 8 lacs] **Consignee:** SSE/P-WAY/STORE **Maharashtra:** 1300.00 Numbers. **UVAM Item ref.:** (Item Id:-3100450-GLUED INSULATED RAIL JOINTS) **Inspection Details:** Stage Inspection Not Required. **Earnest Money (INR):** Rs.1439130.00 **Date & Time of Closing of Tender on www.ireps.gov.in :** 22/09/2025 after 11:30 The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender. Website: **www.ireps.gov.in.** ANJ-60

खतरनाक व विस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

SP expels MLA for praising Yogi in Assembly

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

Samajwadi Party (SP) on Thursday expelled its Prayagraj MLA Pooja Pal for praising Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in the state Assembly for his "zero-tolerance' policy toward criminals.

According to SP sources, Pooja Pal was expelled for indulging in "anti-party activities".

Pooja Pal's husband and BSP MLA Raju Pal was shot dead allegedly by the henchmen of gangster-turned-politician Ateeq Ahmed in 2005. In the Assembly, Pooja had said that she got justice because of the strict policy of the present dispensation toward the criminals.

"Everyone knows who killed my husband...no one but Adityanath listened to me. Ateeq Ahmed, who was the killer of my husband, was buried by the chief minister," she said.

Pooja Pal's comments caused huge embarrassment to the SP as the party MLAs had been trying to corner Adityanath over what they alleged poor law and order situation in the state.

Pooja Pal was among the seven SP MLAs who had voted for BJP candidate Sanjay Seth in last year's Rajya Sabha polls.

Heavy rains batter Telangana, Andhra; 2 dead

HYDERABAD, DHNS: Heavy rainfall triggered by a low-pressure system has battered Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, bringing normal life to a standstill across multiple districts.

Incessant downpours have submerged low-lying areas, while floodwaters on roads are causing significant inconvenience to commuters. Rivers, streams, and canals are overflowing in both states, with dangerous water levels disrupting connectivity between numerous villages.

In response, state governments declared holidays for educational institutions across several districts. The relentless rains have claimed two lives in Warangal.

SIR puts strain on India-Nepal 'roti-beti' ties in Bihar's Mithilanchal

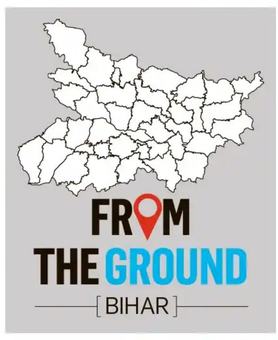
Border towns under watch as voter verification drive gains pace

SATISH JHA
MADHUBANI, DHNS

In the dusty border towns of north Bihar's Mithilanchal region, where roti-beti ties with Nepal run deep and agriculture sustains most households, the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) has stirred a mix of anxiety and approval.

At border checkpoints like Jainagar in Madhubani district, Sashastra Seema Bal personnel stop motorcycles, four-wheelers and even tongas, checking documents and logging vehicle numbers. The once-open India–Nepal border is now under constant surveillance.

For many, the document drive feels like a race against time. "This is basically a search for documents. There is a problem, but since we have been given time, people are searching and submitting them. They are asking for birth certificates. Permanent residents have them, but those who have come from outside are facing difficulties. Those who have come from Nepal are indeed having problems," said Sewalal Yadav, a farm labourer, seated on the Kamla river embankment, a deck of cards in hand.



Officials admit the bottleneck lies in proving eligibility under the Election Commission's 2003 baseline voter list. "We don't have any solution, we are just following orders," said Barun Kumar, a Block Level Officer, who arrived at the embankment while *DH* was speaking with Yadav.

"Some, unable to produce certificates, are submitting letters from the village head signed by at least five residents as witnesses to their citizenship," he added.

Jolt for the elderly

Shanti Devi, a tailoring trainee at Narar Kothi Chowk, recounted her own workaround: "My parental home is in Nepal. I used my husband's Aadhaar card to make my residence certificate. My work is done, but the elderly, 55 to 60 years old, have nothing. The government should have made some arrangements for them."

Not everyone sees the drive as a burden. Some insist it's necessary.

"What the government has done is very good — it will reveal who comes from where. Only those involved in wrongdoing will have a problem. We can prove we came from our parental home, not from Bangladesh or Pakistan. Even if our parents were uneducated, we still visited them for Raksha Bandhan and brought back documents," said one.

The SIR's validity is being debated in the Supreme Court. Supporters, however, see it as essential for "updating and correcting" the rolls and for identifying migrants who have entered from Bangladesh or Pakistan and allegedly altered the demography.

But in this remote borderland, where family, trade and culture have flowed freely across an invisible line for generations, the exercise is testing both paperwork and patience. Many said that though they support the move, they are now scrambling to get certificates to prove that they are Indians despite having voted in so many previous elections.

Operating in atmosphere of sharp political hostility: EC to SC

Says almost all its decisions were contested

NEW DELHI, PTI

The Election Commission on Thursday informed the Supreme Court that it was "operating in an atmosphere of sharp political hostility" where hardly any of its decisions went uncontested, as it defended the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi, who prima facie agreed with the powers of the ECI to conduct the SIR exercise, said the manner of doing it has to be reasonable and fair.

"The ECI is at present operating in an atmosphere of sharp political hostility where hardly any of its decisions are not contested. However, it has enough reservoir of power to make certain decisions including conducting the special intensive revision," senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, appearing for the ECI, said.

Dwivedi said the ECI was currently "caught between the struggle of political parties", which saw them call EVMs "bad" when they lost and call EVMs "good" when they won.

"Not my contention that ECI is omnipotent to do whatever it likes. I don't assume that high pedestal. But, ECI has a reservoir of power under Article 324 and provisions of the Representation of Peoples Act," he said.

The ECI, he said, was not concerned with the perception of political parties but with legality.

"About perception, we can't do anything. Political parties will have their own necessities to project a perception to win an election," he said.

Dwivedi added, "Please see, what we are doing and what havoc has been portrayed. Some counsel tried to bring in some melodrama to project some individuals without affidavits. We don't know who they were, or from where they came. Your lordships were told they were shown 'dead'."

Justice Kant told Dwivedi that the court had forgotten the "scene" and it went by record.

The ECI counsel said of the 7.24 crore forms submitted by the electors, five crore names were scrutinised and if the court heard the current batch of petitions challenging the June 24 decision to conduct the SIR in Bihar after fifteen days, the poll panel could give better figures.

The bench offered to take the matter to its logical conclusion and said it wasn't closing it but asked the ECI why the names of deleted voters were not disclosed with reasons.

"If you bring it into the public domain, the narrative disappears," the bench said, as it directed the poll panel to publish the details of 65 lakh voter, whose names featured in earlier electoral rolls but were dropped from the draft roll published on August 1.

Tamil Nadu Congress Committee President (TNCC) K Selvaperunthagai with party leaders and party workers during a torch rally on alleged vote theft, in Chennai, on Thursday. PTI

SC order on SIR a massive win for democracy: Oppn

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Opposition on Thursday welcomed the Supreme Court order on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, with the Congress calling it a "massive victory" for democracy and a "huge message" for "vote chors" (vote thieves) who "tried to distort" the electoral process in the state.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the campaign by millions of aware citizens, the Congress, and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, had "achieved its first success" through the Supreme Court's intervention.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha also said: "The fight will continue."

Congress general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal, one of the petitioners in the case, said the SC order, directing the Election Commission to publicise the list of deleted voters with reasons and allowing Aadhaar, was an "important first step" in the fight against the "draconian and disastrous" SIR process.

He also said, "It is heartening that, in unequivocal terms, the court has ordered that machine-readable electoral rolls be made available in line with one of Rahul Gandhi's central demands. We also welcome the insistence on the swift declaration of the 65 lakh deleted names, which will no doubt go a long way in bringing much-needed transparency to the SIR process."

He said the court's rejection of the EC's decision not to accept Aadhaar was "also a major boost", since it was the most widely held document by the poor and the marginalised.

The Trinamool Congress said on its official X handle: "at last, the Supreme Court has given the EC the treatment it deserves for its opacity and arbitrary actions...This is a much-needed step towards transparency, accountability, and the protection of voters' rights. [sic]"

CPM general secretary M A Baby said the SC directive provided "partial relief", but the SIR debate extended "beyond mere revision", raising concerns about "systemic sabotage" of the voters' list.

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said the Supreme Court had upheld the Constitution in a "categorical, convincing, and courageous" manner.

Voter list discrepancies emerge in Maharashtra

MUMBAI, DHNS: As the Congress-led Opposition's 'vote chori' exposé gains momentum, cases of glitches in voter list emerged, including two big cases in Nalasopara in Palghar district and another in Chandrapur.

Sushama Gupta, a 39-year-old woman residing in the Nalasopara assembly constituency of Palghar district near Mumbai, appears six times in the electoral roll, with each listing featuring a unique EPIC number.

After the news spread like wildfire, Palghar District Collector and District Election Officer Dr Indu Rani Jakhar took cognisance of the matter.

The Palghar District Information Officer said: "All BLOs have been instructed to thoroughly verify their voter list sections and, as necessary, fill out Form No 7 for duplicate voters and take action as per the rules. Similarly, in the upcoming voter list revision program, strict scrutiny and action have been instructed to be taken to eliminate duplicate claims, as directed by the District Election Officer and District Collector Dr Indu Rani Jakhar to all agencies."

Former Rajura MLA Subhash Dhote flagged a similar issue in Chandrapur district, specifically in Ghugus village (House No. 350), where over 100 voters have been registered.

SIR order: BJP slams Congress for 'moral victory' claims

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Claiming that the Congress-led Opposition was celebrating a "moral victory" over what it termed a "non-issue", the BJP said the Supreme Court's order on the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise was a blow to the Opposition.

JP Nadda

BJP president JP Nadda said the Congress tried every possible tactic but failed. "Congress tried every trick and deceit to stop SIR, but they faced disappointment in the Supreme Court today. Now, in sheer desperation, they are clutching at non-issues and parading them as moral victories. The fact remains that all their canards are being rejected and exposed," he said.

The SC on Thursday directed the EC to upload the list of 65 lakh deleted voters' names on a website and cite the reasons for their deletion.

BJP IT Cell chief Amit Malviya questioned why neither the Congress nor the RJD had filed a formal complaint with the Bihar EC. "Having failed to secure their desired outcome, the usual suspects are in overdrive, claiming moral victory. Strange — not a single RJD–Congress booth-level agent has filed a complaint so far. All parties already had access to the list of 65 lakh deleted names. And as for Aadhaar— the court has only permitted it to establish identity, not citizenship," Malviya said.

He also questioned the voter IDs of Congress leader Sonia Gandhi and said that she was given her EPIC even before she became an Indian citizen. "Her name first appeared on the rolls in 1980, three years before she became an Indian citizen and while she still held Italian citizenship. In 1980, the electoral rolls of the New Delhi parliamentary constituency were revised... Sonia Gandhi's name was added, appearing at serial number 388 in polling station 145," Malviya alleged.

Union Culture Minister Gajendra Sekhawat said that Rahul Gandhi was questioning the integrity of constitutional bodies. "Congress had used immoral methods and unethical practices on several occasions. During the 1952 Lok Sabha elections, Congress prevented BR Ambedkar from winning his seat by declaring over 74,000 votes invalid," he said.

Cong demands nullification of 2024 polls after Thakur's claims

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Congress on Thursday again targeted the BJP and the Election Commission (EC), questioning why the 2024 Lok Sabha elections should not be nullified when ruling party MP Anurag Thakur himself had provided "evidence" of manipulation of the voters' list.

Accusing the poll body of double standards, the party also asked why the EC had not asked Thakur to provide evidence on oath, as it had demanded from Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi over his claims of one lakh "fake voters" in the Mahadevapura Assembly segment of the Bangalore Central Lok Sabha seat.

Congress Media and Publicity Department Chairman Pawan Khera told a press conference that Thakur had "exposed the collusion" between the BJP and the EC through his claims of voter list manipulation in constituencies from where top Opposition leaders won. "That's why the whole nation is now saying, 'Vote thief, leave the throne.' The BJP's press conference has proven that the previous Lok Sabha election was based on a fake voter list. Shouldn't this election be considered fraudulent?" he asked.

On Wednesday, Thakur claimed that the voters' list was manipulated in Rae Bareli, Wayanad, Kannauj, and Diamond Harbour, and demanded the resignation of Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Akhilesh Yadav, and Abhishek Banerjee.

Khera said the Congress thanked the BJP for proving Rahul Gandhi's point that elections in the country were fought on the basis of fake voters.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For and on behalf of President of India, the Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), South Eastern Railway, Ranchi-834003 invites e-tenders for the following work : **Sl. No.; Notice No.; Name of work; Tender Value; EMD Value** are as follows : **[1] DRMENGGRNC-87-2025**; Supply & loading into Railway wagons/hoppers and unloading the same 85266 cum of 50 mm size machine crushed hard stone track ballast at Pakur/Taljhari/Barharwa quarry siding for the jurisdiction of Ranchi Division (Measurement will be done at destination); **₹12,44,86,654.68**; ₹7,72,400.00 ; **[2] DRMENGGRNC-88-2025**; Supply & loading into Railway wagons/hoppers and unloading the same 84861 cum of 50 mm size machine crushed hard stone track ballast at Bakudih/Rajgram/Pinargaria quarry siding for the jurisdiction of Ranchi Division (Measurement will be done at destination); **₹12,38,95,362.78**; ₹7,69,500.00 ; **[3] DRMENGGRNC-89-2025**; Zonal works for the period of 02 years for execution of (a) New works, addition and alteration to the existing sanitary system and water supply system subject to the costing of each such works not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000.00 (Rupees Five lakh only) and (b) All ordinary and special repair works, supply of materials and maintenance works and conveyance of materials during the period from 01.07.2025 to 30.06.2027 for section Km. 428/12 to GBX(Ex) in Hatia-Orga section under the jurisdiction of SSE (Works)/ Bano; **₹89,99,860.82**; ₹1,80,000.00; **[4] DRMENGGRNC-90-2025**; Zonal works for the period of 02 years for execution of (a)New works, addition and alteration to the existing sanitary system and water supply system subject to the costing of each such works not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000.00 (Rupees Five lakh only) and (b) All ordinary and special repair works, supply of materials and maintenance works and conveyance of materials For Staff Quarters for the period from 01.07.2025 to 30.06.2027 (02 yrs.) under the jurisdiction of SSE(Works)/Hatia. [Details of Qtrs: Type-I =479,Type-II =456, Type-III =23 Total =958 Nos.]); **₹1,00,77,440.20**; ₹2,00,400.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time :** 04.09.2025 at 15.00 hrs. (for all tenders). Tenderers can visit the website **www.ireps.gov.in** for online tendering.

(PR-524)

CPM/GSU/CKP acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tenders against Open Tender. **Sl. No.** : 1; **Tender Notice No.** : **CKP-GSU-JSG-EPC-25-26-2**; **Name of work** : Re-development of Jharsuguda Railway Station of South Eastern Railway on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode.; **Tender Value** : ₹73,58,20,822.00; **EMD** : ₹38,29,100.00; **Cost of Tender form** : ₹0.00; **Date of opening** : 15.09.2025. The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. The tenderer/bidders must have class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered under on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. **NOTE** : e-Tender forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority-Rly. Bd's letter No. 2020/CE-I/CT/3 E/GCC/Policy dtd.16.07.2020).

(PR-523)

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. 222-S/1/W-II, dated 13.08.2025. Following e-tenders are invited online by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, DRM Building, Kaizer Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following works : **Sl.No.1, Tender No.: TN-111-25-26. Name of the Work** : Sealdah Division - TRR(P) - (Total 37.650 TKM) Work in between Krishnanagar-Lalgola UP & DN line, Ranaghat-Krishnanagar DN line along with other ancillary work under Senior Section Engineer/ P. Way/Krishnanagar in the jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer/III/ Sealdah. **Tender Value** : Rs. 3,28,47,209.68. **EMD:** Rs. 3,14,200/- **Sl.No.2, Tender No.: TN-113-25-26. Name of the Work** : Sealdah Division -TRR(P) - (Total 34.194 TKM) Work in between Ranaghat-Gede UP and DN MAIN LINE, Kalinarayanpur-Shantipur UP and DN MAIN LINE and Renewal of Diamond crossing - At Ranaghat [7 set] along with other ancillary work under Senior Section Engineer/P. Way/Ranaghat in the jurisdiction of Divisional Enqineer/III/ Sealdah. **Tender Value** : Rs. 3,11,01,634.41. **EMD:** Rs. 3,05,500/-. **Completion period for the work** : 12 months for each. **Date & time of closing of tenders** : 08.09.2025 at 15.00 hrs. **Date & time of opening of tender:** 08.09.2025 at 15.30 hrs. The tender document and other details are available at **www.ireps.gov.in** The bid for the tender is to be submitted through e-tendering on above website. Manual offers will be summarily rejected.

(SDAH-167/2025-26)

Tender Notices are also available at Website
www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at : @EasternRailway
@easternrailwayheadquarter

'No time to run': Pilgrims swept away as cloudburst hits Kishtwar

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

A sudden cloudburst in Jammu and Kashmir's remote Chositi village of Kishtwar district on Thursday afternoon unleashed a torrent of water down the Jasnai nullah, sweeping away pilgrims and locals in seconds, eyewitnesses and officials said.

The disaster struck as scores of devotees undertaking the Machail Mata Yatra were resting or moving along the nullah's banks, an eyewitness told *DH* over the phone. At least 50 people were killed and more than 120 were injured in the incident, while over 200 are still missing.

Videos shared on social media show a wall of muddy water roaring through the narrow stream, overturning tents, washing away makeshift kitchens, and scattering people scrambling for safety.

"Many pilgrims were standing in the nullah to cool off or wash up, while others were sitting inside the langer (community kitchen) set up right beside it," the eyewitness said. "Suddenly, there was a deafening sound from the hills, and water came rushing in. Within seconds, people were screaming and getting swept away."

Locals and fellow yatris managed to pull several people to safety, but many were carried downstream before they could react, he said. The nullah, usually a shallow stream, turned into a raging river within moments.

Major calamities in J&K and Himalayan states

Injured persons being treated at a hospital in Atholi. PTI

Himalayan disasters

June 2013
Kedarnath, Uttarakhand:
5,700+ dead

August 2010
Leh, Ladakh:
200+ dead.

July 2023
Himachal:
50+ dead

Jammu & Kashmir

August 2025
Chositi, Kishtwar:
40 dead, 220 missing, 120+ injured.

July 2022
Amarnath Cave:
16 pilgrims killed, 40+ injured

July 2021
Hunzar, Kishtwar:
26 dead, 17 injured.

July 2017
Thathri, Doda:
6 dead.

Sept 2014
Kashmir Floods:
200+ dead, lakhs displaced

Why the region is vulnerable

- Steep Slopes & Narrow Valleys: Accelerate water flow, causing sudden flash floods.
- Climate Change: Intensifies extreme rainfall events in Himalayan belt.
- Unplanned Development: Weakens natural drainage and destabilises slopes.
- High Pilgrimage Footfall: Makes remote, fragile zones more disaster-prone.

Officials said some pilgrims and residents managed to flee to higher ground in time, but the authorities were still trying to account for all those in the area when the cloudburst hit. "Our teams are trying to establish the number of missing persons," a senior official said.

Rescue operations were launched immediately, though the remoteness of the area and the damaged approach roads hampered access. Army and State Disaster Response Force personnel have been deployed, with helicopters on standby for evacuation and aerial surveys.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi offered condolences to those affected in the tragedy. "My thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by the cloudburst and flooding in Kishtwar, Jammu and Kashmir. The situation is being monitored closely. Rescue and relief operations are underway. Every possible assistance will be provided to those in need," he posted on X.

Home Minister Amit Shah said he had spoken to both Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and CM Omar Abdullah to assess the situation.

Experts' take

Experts say J&K's steep mountains, fragile slopes, and narrow river valleys make it particularly prone to flash floods triggered by cloudbursts. Climate change has intensified erratic weather patterns, increasing both the frequency and severity of such events. Rapid, unregulated construction in ecologically fragile zones — including along pilgrimage routes — has further weakened natural drainage systems, heightening disaster risks. Large gatherings for religious yatras in remote areas compound the vulnerability, as emergency evacuation becomes difficult once calamity strikes, experts believe.

DEEPAK
Survivor

"The langar site was packed with people, some going for the pilgrimage and others on their way back from the shrine. It was anybody's guess as to how many people were trapped under the debris.

SC reserves order on plea against stray dog relocation

Court slams inaction by civic bodies, demands accountability

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Thursday reserved its order on a plea seeking a stay on the directions issued by a two-judge bench in a suo motu case dated August 11, which called for relocating all stray dogs in the Delhi-NCR region to shelter homes.

A bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and NV Anjaria asked the intervenors challenging the validity of the earlier order to file an affidavit, saying that the issue involves human suffering on one side and animal lovers on the other.

Turning to the counsel representing the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), the SC remarked that the situation arose from the civic body's inaction.

"The government does nothing. The local authorities do nothing. They should be here, taking responsibility. Everyone who has come here to file an intervention should take responsibility," it said.

A fresh three-judge bench constituted on Wednesday by Chief Justice of India BR Gavai took up the matter, after the previous order by a two-judge bench triggered strong reactions, including street protests.

Appearing for the Delhi government, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said that India records 37 lakh dog bite cases annually, an average of about 10,000 per day. Citing WHO data, he said that around 20,000 rabies-related deaths occur each year.

Strongly supporting previous order to relocate stray dogs, he contended that even sterilisation did not prevent rabies.

"NGOs make a lot of noise but they don't know what they should actually be doing. They should have been here earlier for implementation of those rules (Animal Birth Control Rules). Nothing is happening"

"Even if the dogs are immunised, that won't stop them from mutilating children. Only four or five species of snakes are poisonous. But we don't keep them at home. Nobody is asking to kill dogs. They need to be separated. Kids are not able to play or go to school," he said.

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal, AM Singhvi, Sidharth Luthra, Siddharth Dave, Aman Lekhi, Colin Gonsalves and others, appearing for NGOs and others, sought a stay of the August 11 order, saying there weren't enough shelter homes to house stray dogs.

"There are the ABC (Animal Birth Control) rules. There is a parliamentary legislation. That has to be complied with. The municipal corporation... what have they been doing over the years? Have they built shelter homes? Since they have not sterilised the dogs, their numbers have increased. Since they have no owners, the community is taking care of them. Where are the shelters? They will be culled," Sibal contended.

Singhvi said the apex court's order ignored previous directions against en masse removal of stray dogs.

One counsel claimed there were about one million dogs in Delhi-NCR, while the shelter homes can accommodate only about a thousand.

On this, the court said these were anecdotal figures and there was no concrete evidence.

On August 11, the SC directed Delhi and NCR civic bodies to begin removing stray dogs from all localities immediately. It warned that any individual or organisation obstructing the process would face legal consequences.

BHU professor 'hires' contract killers to 'eliminate' colleague

LUCKNOW, DHNS: Irked over being replaced as Head of the Department (HoD), a senior professor at the prestigious Banaras Hindu University (BHU) allegedly gave a 'supari' (contract) to have incumbent head murdered.

Police sources said that former HoD of Telugu department, Budati Venkateswarlu, hired his former research scholar and others to eliminate current HoD, C S Ramchandra Murthy.

A senior police official in Varanasi said the conspiracy came to light after research scholar B Bhaskar, a resident of Telangana, and his accomplice were arrested a couple of days ago.

The police have booked nine people in the case. While two have been arrested, a search is on for 6 others. Police said that the main accused, Venkateswarlu, would be arrested shortly. Investigators are also probing the role of an assistant professor at Mysore University, Quasim Babu, whom Venkateswarlu allegedly wanted appointed to BHU.

According to police, Venkateswarlu, resident of Andhra Pradesh, was upset over being removed from HoD post, he hatched plot to kill Murthy.

Government of Karnataka
SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT
COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL WELFARE
Vth FLOOR, M.S. BUILDINGS, Dr.B.R.AMBEDKAR VEEDHI, BANGALORE - 560 001
Phone No. 22253783, 22250963

No.SWD/ED-4/CR-1646457/2025-26 DATE:14-08-2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Department of Social Welfare has invited Short term E-Tender from the Manufacturers and authorized Dealers for the supply of Shoes and Socks for the use in Government Pre Metric hostels Students. The Tender document details can be downloaded through e-procurement portal in Government of Karnataka **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** The commencement of download e-tender form from website is date: **05.08.2025.** The last date and time for uploading of E-tender in E-procurement platform on or before date: **20.08.2025 at 5.00 P.M.** Those who are interested to supply can participate in the process.

Sd/-
Joint Director (Education), &
Tender inviting authority
DIPR/CP/2340/SSC/2025-26 **Social Welfare Department, Bangalore.**

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited
(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
e-mail: helpdesk@bmrc.co.in, Website: www.bmrc.co.in

No. BMRCL/HR/0015/ IT/2025 Date: 14.08.2025

NOTIFICATION FOR CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

BMRCL invites applications from qualified personnel for appointment to the following post in the Information Technology department on Contract basis.

Sl.No.	Name of Post	No. of Posts
1	Axpert Developer	05

Last date for receipt of online application is **08/09/2025** and for receipt of signed application with supporting documents is **04.00 PM on 12/09/2025.**

For details regarding eligibility, salary, application process and other details, please visit BMRCL website: **www.bmrc.co.in / career section.**

Sd/-
Dy. General Manager (HR)

HUBLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Corporate Office, Navanagar, PB Road, Hubballi-580025 Phone:9449057833,
Fax: 0836-2324307 mail.ID: seepmc.hescom@gmail.com
Corporate Identity Number CIN: U31401KA2002SGC030437

No: HESCOM/SEE(PMC)/EE-P2/AEE-2/2025-26/Cys-4598 Date: 14-08-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP Portal Only)

Superintending Engineer (Ele), Projects Monitoring Cell, Corporate Office, HESCOM, Hubballi invites tenders for "Selection of Solar Power Generators (SPGs) on the basis of Build Own & Operate (BOO) for Design, Survey, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of Grid Connected Mega Watt Scale Solar Power Projects in HESCOM jurisdiction and its associated 11kV line to connect the plant with concerned Sub Station (SS) and Remote Monitoring System (RMS) of solar power plants through RESCO mode, for 25 years" vide Indent No: HESCOM/2025-26/SE0609.

The detailed notification regarding the bid enquiry can be obtained by logging in to the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after **15-08-2025**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Projects Monitoring Cell, HESCOM, Hubli
DIPR/Dharwad/553/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE
Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi P.O. Bengaluru-560 072. *www.isec.ac.in*

HIRING OF DATA COLLECTION AGENCY FOR FIELDWORK ACROSS 13 STATES IN INDIA

The Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru, invites proposals from qualified and experienced data collection agencies to undertake large-scale field data collection across 13 states in India for a project at ADRTC, ISEC.

Proposals must be submitted by 19th August 2025.

For more details: visit ISEC website: www.isec.ac.in

ISEC-25614

MAHARANI CLUSTER UNIVERSITY
Palace Road, Bengaluru - 560001

Notification No: MCU/AS1-065/01/2025-26 Date: 04.07.2025

POST GRADUATE ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR 2025-26

PG COURSES OFFERED

MA	Kannada, English, Economics, History, Sociology, Political Science, Anicient History & Archaeology.
PG DIPLOMA	Functional English and Communication (Duration: One year) Expressive Art And Play Therapy (Duration: One year)
PGDTE PG DIPLOMA	Teaching English Language & Literature (Duration: One year)
M.Com	Master of Commerce, Business Analytics
MBA	(Master of Business Administration (Entrance through PGCET))
MTTM	(Master In Travels And Tourism Management)
MCA	Master of Computer Application (Entrance through PGCET)
M.Sc	Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Life Science. Psychology, Physics (Nanoscience & Technology). Computer Science (Specialization in Data Science). Computer Science (Specialization in Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning), Food & Nutrition, Textiles & Clothing, Human Development. Interior Design & Decoration

ONLY WOMEN CAN APPLY **HOSTEL FACILITY AVAIABLE**

The candidates should register in UUCMS online and submit the application. A candidate can apply for more than one course for which she is eligible.

For More Details Contact
Email ID- **mcublr@gmail.com.** Landline: **080-29555666**

DIPR/CP/2325/ISA/2025-26

Government of Karnataka Zilla Panchayat, Shivamogga
Department of AYUSH,
Office of District AYUSH Officers, Shivamogga
#08, GR Complex, 1st Floor, 1st Main Road, 4th Cross Road, Devaraja Urs Nagar, Sominakoppa Road, Shivamogga -577204.
Email: dao.shimoga09@gmail.com Ph: 08182-255230
No: DAOS/12/Accounts(1)/2025-26 DO: 12-08-2025

e-Tender Notice
(Tender for procurement of outsourcing service)

E-tenders are invited from eligible human resource agencies for the recruitment of Group-D posts on an outsourced basis for a period of one year, for a total of 25 posts for the District AYUSH Office, Shivamogga, and the Government Ayurveda Clinics functioning under it. The estimated tender value is Rs. 53.98 lakhs. The tender schedule and other details can be viewed on the website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in (under Indent No.: KPPP Tender No. AYD/2024-25/SE0135). For further information, the office may be contacted during working hours.

Sd/- District AYUSH Officer District AYUSH Office, Shivamogga.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/65/08/754

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPPP only)

BESCOM, invites tender for the following Services . Enquiry NO: CEE/BMAZN/SEE(O)/AEE-1/25- 26/ENQ NO:04. Dated: 12.08.2025. Description: **Providing 60 numbers of Man Power Services to Fast Track helpline desk on Contract basis for a period of one year to various O&M Sub-Divisions of East and North circle BMAZN, BESCOM.** Issue of Bid Documents: **16-08-2025 to 15-09-2025 upto 14:00 Hrs.** Last date for receipt of Bid Documents: **15-09-2025 upto 16:00 Hrs.** Opening of Bid Documents: **17-09-2025 at 11:00 Hrs.** The Tenders can be obtained through e-procurement from the tendering website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For Any clarifications contact e-procurement help desk **080-23010900/22340948** or e-mail to: **hphelpdesk.blr@rteservices.com** for any issue.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy),
(C,O&M), BMAZ North, BESCOM, Bengaluru.

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/Tr(P)/TKR/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/2025-26/1637-39 Dated:14.08.2025

BRIEF SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal only)

KPTCL invites Bids on electronic mode for **conducting detailed modern survey** vide tender INDENT No.: SEE/Tr(P)/Tkr/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/2025-26/Enq-10 Dt:14.08.2025.

1. Construction of 220kV LILO line from existing 220kV Shivamogga-K.B Cross-Nelamangala (B2) line using HPC conductor (Drake ACSS) for a distance of 1.5 kms to the Proposed 220/66/11KV GIS Hirehalli S/s in Tumakuru Taluk & District.

2. For Strengthening of existing 66KV SC Hirehalli-Urdigere-Kolala-Dabaspete Line using Drake ACSR/Drake equivalent HPC for a distance of 45 Kms in Tumakuru Distrcit & Bengaluru Rural District.

3. Providing 2nd circuit from proposed 220/66/11KV GIS Hirehalli Sub-station upto tapping point of 66kV Honnudike substation and linking it to existing line connecting 66kV Honnudike Sub-station for a distance of 4.5 kms partially using UG Cable & Over head Line in Tumakuru Taluk & District.

4. For termination of 66kV DC line from existing Tumakuru Sub-station to proposed 220/66/11KV GIS Hirehalli substation using UG Cable in Tumakuru Taluk & District.

The bids will be received through KPP Portal only. The detailed notification regarding the subject Enquiry in the KPP portal can be obtained by logging into KPPP website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** OR KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karanataka.gov.in** or click on hyperlink **'E Procurement KPTCL'** on or after **16.08.2025 at 15:00hrs.** Any Extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the KPP Portal, any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the under signed during office hours.

All Corrigendum / Addendum shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elecl),
Transmission (Project) Circle, KPTCL, "Prasana Bhavana"
Ground Floor, 66/11 KV Sub Station Premises,
Kothi Thopu Road, Tumakuru-572103.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture
Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Rajarajeshwari Nagara Zone, Bangalore.

No: SADH/RRN/TENDER/11/2025-26 Date: 14.08.2025

INVITATION FOR RE-TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term) (Two Cover System)

(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Rajarajeshwari Nagara), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Security Services to Parks.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Security Services to parks in Yeshwanthapura Constituency. **Estimate cost : Rs. 50,00,000/-, EMD : Rs. 50,000/-. Category : ST**

Calendar of Events: (1) Date of Notification : **14.08.2025 (2)** Tender can be downloaded from **: 16.08.2025 (3)** Pre bd Meeting : **18.08.2025, 12.30 PM (4)** Tender Closing Date : **21.08.2025, 05.00 PM (5)** Technical bid opening date : **22.08.2025, 05.00 PM Onward (6)** Financial bid opening date : **After Approval of Technical bid.**

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture
Rajarajeshwarinagara Zone

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Byatarayanapura Division, No.2152/20, Defence Colony, BWSSB Tank Road, Sahakaranagara, BBMP Office, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru - 560 092.

No: EE/BTP/BBMP/E-PMT/07/2025-26 Date: 13.08.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDERS (IFT)
TWO COVER TENDER
(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)

Tender for the following works on Item rate basis are invited as Standard Bid Documents by the Executive Engineer, Byatarayanapura Division BBMP, from the registered Contractors of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/ Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl No.	Name of the work/Category
1.	Ward No-08, Providing Emergency Relief Task Force Team to Yelahanka Zonal Control room for the year 2025-26 (Other) **Approx. value of work: ₹.99.75 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.199500/-**

Calendar of Events : (1) Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **19.08.2025** at **3:00** pm. (2) Last Date for Uploading the Filled Tender Document is **22.08.2025** upto **4:00** pm. (3) Opening of Technical Bids on **25.08.2025** at **11:05** am. (4) Opening of Financial Bid is on **26.08.2025** at **11:00** am (For Two Cover System).

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Byatarayanapura Division

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer Sarvagnanagar Division
7th Floor, P.U.Building. M.G. Road, Bangalore -560 001.

No.EE/SGN/TEND/09/2025-26 Date: 12.08.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
(TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Only through kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal)

The Executive Engineer (Sarvagnanagar Division), BBMP, Bangalore on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike. for the construction of works detailed in the table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for works given in the table through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka **(viz https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in).** The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract (Standard Tender Document -K/W-1). **2.**Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPPP portal of the Government of Karnataka from **14.08.2025. 3.**Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **16.00 hours on 21.08.2025** and the opening of tenders will be on **22.08.2025 at 16.00 hours. 4.** Other details can be seen in the tender document.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work/Approximate value of work (Rs in Lakhs)/ EMD amount in Rs.
1	Providing Mobile Immersion Tank in Sarvagnanagara Constituency for 10 Wards (Per Ward 1.75 Lakhs). Approximate Value of work : **Rs. 17.50 Lakhs** , EMD (in Rupees): **43,750/-.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, (Sarvagnanagar Division), BBMP.

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department,
Special Division, Hunsur
Short Term tender Notification
(Through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

IFT No: 06/2025-26 Date: 13-08-2025

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka the undersigned has invited itemised tender for 04-works related to Hunsur Division as per terms and conditions of "standard tender documents" KW-4 from the eligible registered contactors under PWD through kppp Portal. Maximum amount put to tender Rs.417.71 lakhs and Minimum amount put to tender Rs.165.64 lakhs, Maximum EMD amount of Rs.6,26,600/- and Minimum EMD amount of Rs.2,48,500/- Tender documents downloaded date 13.08.2025 from the https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in website and Last date for submission of filled tender documents is Sl.no 1 & 2 Dt: 11.09.2025 and Sl.no 3 Dt: 28.08.2025 and Sl.no 4 Dt: 20.08.2025 upto 16.00 Hours. Period for completion of works (including Rainy season) Maximum 6-Months & Minimun 15-days For more details visit the undersigned during office working hours .

Note:- 1) The employer reserves the rights to Reject or Accept any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons. **2)** Tender extension/Addendum/Corrigendum etc, will be notified only in KPP Portal and will not be published in news papers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD, Special Division, Hunsur

DIPR/DDMYS/792/KSMCA/445/2025-26

ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು & ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ – ಬಾಯಪಾಸ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಯುನಿಟ್–2, ಫುಡ್ ಪಾರ್ಕ್ ಎದುರಿಗೆ, ಸೆಕ್ಟರ್ ನಂ. 85, 5ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ನವನಗರ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ. ದೂ.: 08354–220446, ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ : eerwssdbagalkot@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಗ್ರಾ.ಕು.ನೀ. ಮತ್ತು ನೈ.ವಿ./ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ/ಪಿಬಿ–2/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ 2025–26/1044 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 13–08–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ **ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ** ರವರಿಂದ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ **ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಬಾದಾಮಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ MVS O&M** ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ ಅಡಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

1) RWSSD/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT9491 APT - 64.40 Lakhs, (Gen Category) (MVS O&M) (Katageri - Anwal), 2) RWSSD/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT9435 APT - 276.75 Lakhs, (Gen Category) (MVS O&M) (Chinchalakatti)

1) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಅರ್ಹತೆ : 3 ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ, 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪ್ರಕಾರ, 3) ಪ್ರಿ–ಬಿಡ್ ಮೀಟಿಂಗ್ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 16–08–2025 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ, ಗ್ರಾ.ಕು.ನೀ. & ನೈ. ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ (For Chinchalakatti MVS O&M), 4) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 20–08–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, 5) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 22–08–2025 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ, 6) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 25–08–2025 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಳಾಸ **ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ, ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲ ತಾಣದ ವಿಳಾಸ : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

ಸಹಿ/– **ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಗ್ರಾ.ಕು.ನೀ. & ನೈ. ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.**

ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ/219/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/25–26

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division, No.1 Sakaleshpur - 573134 Ph: 08173-244454, e-mail: eeypdn1@gmail.com

Tender Notification No: EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-01/TN/06/2025-26/636 Dated: 14.08.2025

PERCENTAGE TENDER NOTIFICATION (TWO TENDER DOCUMENT SYSTEM) (Only through kppp portal system)

"Percentage" tenders through kppp portal for 27 works are invited by the Executive Engineer, VJNL, YP Division, No.1,Sakaleshapura on behalf of Managing Director, VisvesvarayaJalaNigama Ltd., Registered office, Bangalore from thePWD registered eligible contractors who fulfill the pre-qualification conditions as per the published bid documents for the work. The amount put to tender varies from Rs. 21.98 Lakhs to Rs. 254.12 Lakhs. Out of 27 works, Sl No. 01 to 09 reserved for Schedule Caste/Schedule Tribe/Category-2A/Category-1 contractors. The contractors can download and submit the completed bid documents for as per the Calendor of events mentioned below.

Sl No	Sl No of works as per Tender Notification	The bidder can access & download the tender documents	Last date of Submission of completed Tender Documents	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid
1	01 to 25	18.08.2025 to 02.09.2025, up to 5.30 pm	02.09.2025, 5.30 pm	04.09.2025, 11.00 Am
2	26 & 27	18.08.2025 to 18.09.2025, up to 5.30 pm	18.09.2025 up to 5.30 pm	20.09.2025, 11.00 Am

The technical bid (Cover-I) will be opened at the office of the Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division, No.1, Sakaleshapura through kppp portal.Details such as Amount put to tender/EMD amount/Qualification of bidders/ Tender Conditions etc can be obtained through kppp portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home. Financial bids will be opened after Technical bid approval or on the date specified in the kppp. portal, whichever is later. The authority competent to accept the tenders shall have the right of rejecting all or any of the tenders without assigning any reasons and will not be bound to accept the lowest tender. Corrigendum/addendum will be published in the kppp portal for all modifications or corrections if any. Any further information required may be obtained from the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, VJNL, YP
Division, No.1, Sakaleshpura

ಪಾಸಾಸಂ೧/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/454/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024–25

DECCAN HERALD
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The freedoms we must not forgo

It is ironic that restrictions are sought to be imposed on people's right to eat what they want to and where to live on a day that commemorates the country's independence from colonial rule. Some civic bodies have imposed a ban on the sale of meat on Independence Day, triggering acrimony. In Maharashtra, civic bodies including Kalyan, Dombivli, Malegaon, and Nagpur have announced such a ban. In Telangana, the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation has ordered the closure of meat shops on I-Day and the following day, which happens to be Janmashtami. Governments and political parties have tried to distance themselves from the move. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and his deputy Ajit Pawar have said that the government did not approve of the ban. But the diktat exists and would be enforced. The ban defies logic and is against everything the I-Day represents to the citizens. The claim in some locations that the ban is in the interest of "public order" is wrong. Apart from curbing the right to food, the ban denies the right to work and to earn one's livelihood on a day the country won its freedoms and rights.

A Kolkata resident and his minor son were reportedly denied stay at a hotel in Noida this week because they were from Bengal. The hotel managers claimed that they had instructions from the police to refuse admission to people from Bangladesh, Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir till August 15 for "security reasons". The guests' clarification that they were from Bengal did not gain them entry. The police denied having issued any such instructions. But the incident is seen in the context of the Delhi Police's controversial notification last month which equated Bengali with "Bangladeshi language". Placing people from select states under watch is against the spirit of the Independence Day. If there was any intelligence input that called for caution, it had to be handled at that level. It was wrong to create a discriminatory situation where the citizens' right to stay anywhere in the country was denied.

Linguistic discrimination and the ban on meat sale go against the Independence Day spirit

The Partition Horrors Remembrance Day which is now observed on the eve of the Independence Day, ostensibly to remember the tragedy of the Partition and the pain and suffering it caused, also conflicts with the Independence Day spirit. The Partition was about hatred and division, while independence denotes harmony and unity. An annual reminder of the horrors can only do harm. It harks back to the past on a day we should be looking forward, with hope and a sense of togetherness.

A ruling for judicial integrity

The Supreme Court's decision to revoke the bail granted to Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa, his associate Pavithra Gowda, and other co-accused in the Renukaswamy murder case extends beyond the confines of this specific incident. It reasserts the fundamental principle that all are equal before the law – regardless of power, wealth, or celebrity status – while calling out the questionable application of judicial discretion in such high-profile cases. According to the prosecution, Darshan and his associates allegedly kidnapped Renukaswamy over derogatory messages sent to Pavithra, confined him in a shed, and subjected him to brutal assault and torture that ultimately caused his death. His body was subsequently discarded in a drain. The order comes as an endorsement of the police investigation and the prosecution's case, the second such instance in recent months, after Prajwal Revanna's conviction for sexual assault.

What is most striking in the judgement is its unambiguous assertion: "Whosoever he may be, howsoever high, he is not above the rule of law." This directly addresses a long-standing public concern that celebrity status or political influence can secure undue leniency in the justice system. The court's stern warning that prison officers would be suspended if "five-star" treatment were extended to the accused, a pointed reference to Darshan earlier being spotted smoking in jail, is a timely reminder that legal compliance is a duty for all, not a privilege selectively enforced. Equally significant is the apex court's sharp rebuke of the Karnataka High Court's previous order granting bail. Describing it as "perverse" and the result of a "mechanical application" of discretionary powers, the bench noted that the High Court had improperly scrutinised witness statements at the bail stage. This falls within the domain of the trial court during cross-examination, and is not for a higher court to weigh at a preliminary stage. As Justice J B Pardiwala remarked in an earlier hearing, the High Court essentially dictated "an acquittal order" and usurped the trial court's role.

By revoking Darshan's bail, SC has overruled a mechanical application of judicial discretion

The Supreme Court's intervention is, therefore, not merely a procedural correction but a vital reinforcement of judicial discipline. It underscores the separation between pre-trial and trial processes, ensuring bail decisions are guided by sound legal principles. By stressing that the gravity of the allegations, supported by substantial forensic material, warranted the cancellation of bail, the court has sent a strong message that mechanical rulings, misplaced leniency, or influential defendants have no place in the dispensation of justice. At a time when public faith in institutions is fragile, this ruling is both a safeguard for the integrity of the justice system and a clarion call to uphold the rule of law without fear or favour.

POLICY PATHWAYS

Emission check: Intensity targets or absolute cuts?

India's emission intensity targets align with its growth goals, but it must eventually aim for absolute reductions

SHUBHI GOEL AND GOPAL K SARANGI

The declaration of Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity (GEI) targets under the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) ushered progressive transition in the operationalisation of the scheme. However, a cursory glance at major global carbon market frameworks such as the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), the UK ETS, and South Korea's ETS reveals an increasing leaning towards absolute emission reduction trajectories. In the face of this, the strategic choice for emission intensity targets (GHG per unit of GDP or output) under India's CCTS calls for delving deeper into the policy compulsions.

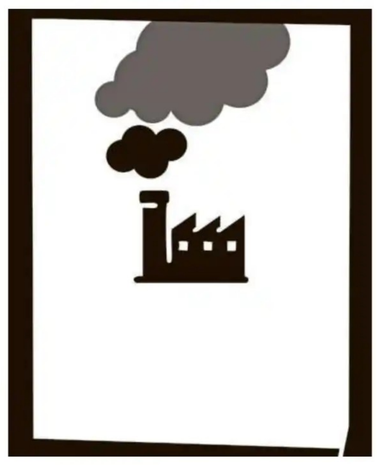
Why did India choose the intensity-based target, rather than absolute reduction, and what are the inherent limitations of setting targets based on emission intensities? The decision represents a pragmatic and strategic choice shaped by India's developmental status, institutional maturity, and market readiness. With per capita emissions at approximately 2.4 tCO e, less than one-third of the global average, India remains one of the lowest emitters on a per capita basis, despite being the third-largest in absolute terms. Imposing rigid, absolute caps could inadvertently constrain the sectoral growth of key sectors such as infrastructure and manufacturing, and poverty reduction, which is critical for India's development agenda. Emission intensity targets have the inherent potential to enable India to decouple emissions from economic growth over time, supporting a low-carbon trajectory without stalling development.

Equally important is the issue of administrative and institutional readiness for a nascent domestic compliance carbon market. Absolute caps demand a sophisticated Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) ecosystem capable of granular emissions accounting across thousands of industrial facilities. Emission intensity targets provide a technically manageable entry point, allowing for compliance to be tracked through standardised benchmarks while the underlying infrastructure for absolute accounting matures.

From a market design perspective, a rigid cap-and-trade model without adequate safeguards could cause price volatility, non-compliance risks, and resistance from industries with limited abatement options. Intensity-based compliance, on the other hand, promotes gradual sectoral transformation by rewarding efficiency gains, encouraging technological upgrades, and ensuring broad participation.

The strategic policy choice for such a design mirrors the early stages of systems like South Korea's and California's, which began with flexible mechanisms. India's design choice is also built on the groundwork, which includes sectoral benchmarks, MRV, and registries for future linkage with international markets.

In essence, India's reliance on emission intensity targets under CCTS is not a retreat from climate ambition but a



calculated and temporally staged approach. It reflects the realities of a growing economy balancing climate justice with competitiveness, administrative feasibility, and geopolitical engagement. However, for India to maintain its credibility and climate leadership, this approach must be seen as a transitional architecture. One that progressively evolves towards hybrid and ultimately absolute emission reduction commitments in line with global climate goals.

Complete reliance on intensity-based targets could not be an enduring solution. While India's adoption of these targets aligns with its developmental priorities, this approach presents several structural and strategic barriers.

India's projected annual GDP growth of 6-7% implies a proportional increase in industrial output. If carbon intensity reduces by 3% annually while real output grows by 7%, total emissions could still rise by ₹4%. In energy-intensive sectors such as aluminium and cement, India's current emission intensity levels remain significantly higher than global best-in-class standards (IEA, 2022). However, under the CCTS, companies are only required to meet domestically set benchmarks, not international ones. This means that firms can comply with relatively lenient standards, potentially locking in higher emissions and discouraging ambition or innovation needed to reach global competitiveness.

The EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is designed around absolute emission metrics. Its mismatch with India's emission intensity targets could pose challenges for Indian exporters in sectors like steel, aluminium, and cement. The use of intensity metrics under the CCTS may serve as a pragmatic interim strategy for India's low-carbon transition, but it falls short in delivering the certainty required for deep decarbonisation. Hence, it becomes imperative to take policy actions keeping in mind the country's long-term decarbonisation goals.

To ensure long-term environmental integrity, market credibility, and global alignment, the scheme may consider the following approach to evolve in its design and ambition.

Transition to sectoral carbon budgets: While intensity-based targets offer flexibility for economic growth, they do not guarantee a decline in total emissions, especially in a rapidly expanding economy like India's. A phased transition towards a hybrid model combining both intensity and absolute targets is essential.

Strengthening the MRV infrastructure: Robust MRV is foundational for the credibility of any carbon market. India should mandate third-party verification using globally accepted standards such as ISO 14064-3. Digital, tamper-proof MRV systems, ideally built on blockchain or secure ledger technology, can ensure real-time tracking of emissions and credit generation, while minimising fraud and boosting investor trust.

Improve market design and oversight: A well-functioning market requires predictability, liquidity, and trust. The CCTS should incorporate mechanisms like price floors and ceilings, rules for credit banking and borrowing, and vintage differentiation. A dedicated market oversight body should be established to enforce compliance, monitor credit quality, and protect against manipulation or speculation.

While India's CCTS provides a solid foundation, its future effectiveness will depend on evolving towards absolute reductions, building robust MRV systems, aligning with international markets, and ensuring equity across sectors and regions.

(Shubhi is a climate finance expert; Gopal is an associate professor and Head of the Department, TERI School of Advanced Studies)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

The forgotten fighters

To my uncle, fighting for a noble cause was reward enough; he sought no recognition from others

K GNANAMURTHY

I vividly remember August 15 from my school days. Our school would also hold Founder's Day on the same occasion. On one such day, as a 13-year-old boy, I was asked to enact Veera Pandya Kattabomman. I adorned myself with plenty of gold paper jewellery on my bare chest and head. I delivered juicy dialogues against Jackson *Durai* of the East India Company, with whom I fought using cardboard swords that would bend and bring peals of laughter from the audience – my schoolmates. Eventually, Bannerman hanged me from a mock-up tree that couldn't take my weight, which, ironically, might have saved the real Kattabomman if the real Bannerman had made the same mistake. The pseudo Bannerman eventually became my brother-in-law, so there were no hard feelings. This play was reenacted in several neighbouring middle schools, and I became a minor hero. All this, I must confess, happened long before the legendary movie of the same name was released in theatres.

As I look back, I realise that our celebrations were devoid of the great tragedy that befell our freedom fighters, such as Kittur Chennamma, Bhagat Singh, and hundreds of others – some well-known, but most lost in oblivion. Many simple men and women gave their lives in the freedom struggle, and we only know those whose pictures we hung on our walls in the early days of freedom.

Books about the Cellular Jail in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, also known as *Kala Pani* – a place of no return – bring back memories of centres of patriotism where our colonial rulers inflicted endless physical and mental torture on Indian revolutionaries. Yet, our men faced all such cruelty bravely, as if they were being garlanded, and ultimately laid down their lives in service of India and her independence. This place stands as a witness to the difficulties faced by our revolutionaries, which we cannot even begin to imagine today.

I had a distant uncle, Swamy Appa, who lived near NR Colony in Bangalore. Along with my aunt, he was a freedom fighter and spent a long time in prison during the Salt Satyagraha and Quit India Movement. However, when we met him later in life, he had already lost his wife and was living a very modest life with his spinster daughter. The sacrifices he made, including his job and material assets, due to his participation in Gandhian movements were not widely known. Neighbours were unaware of his past, and only the photographs on the wall testified to his sacrifices for Mother India. To him, fighting for a noble cause was its reward, and he didn't seek recognition from others. Despite his obvious and self-acquired poverty, he had a smiling face and a contented attitude.

There were thousands of unsung heroes who contributed to our Independence Day. Their stories, like that of my uncle, remain largely unknown, but their sacrifices will always be remembered.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The EC must take responsibility, clean up electoral roll

Dual voting is an offence as per the Election Commission of India. Then how is it that a particular person's name is appearing in the electoral roll in multiple places? Is it not questionable? Instead of rectifying this error, the authorities are trying to distract from the issue by questioning the person who alleges it with proof, which is highly ridiculous and absurd. There are several other errors in the voter list, such as the appearance of persons' names who are no longer with us, persons with fake addresses, etc. The EC has the responsibility to rectify and maintain an unchallengeable electoral roll to gain the confidence of the electorate and function as an independent body. The EC would do well to imbibe the calibre of former CEC T N Seshan.
S Sundara Pandian, Bengaluru

Welcome precedent

The Supreme Court's decision to cancel the bail of Kannada actor Darshan, Pavithra Gowda, and others in the Renukaswamy murder case is a welcome reminder that the law does not bend to stardom or influence. This case is not about minor allegations; the accused face charges of kidnapping, torture, and murder, crimes that shake the public conscience. Granting bail in such matters, as the Karnataka High Court had done, undermines the faith of ordinary citizens in our judicial system. The SC's ruling will set a precedent that deters future attempts to misuse the bail system.
Vishal Mayur, Tumakuru

Revive Hopcoms

The media reports about the closure of 141 Hopcoms in the state are distressing. Among several reasons for closure are that buyers are not allowed to choose the vegetables and fruits and lack of price advantage. The government should look into these aspects and revive the Hopcoms.
P Sathish, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

We won't protect the guilty. But this (Dharmasthala case) was created out of nothing...I know the entire detail. This case is an empty trunk, which is just making noise.
D K Shivakumar, Karnataka Dy CM

The less people know, the more stubbornly they know it.
Osho Rajneesh

TO BE PRECISE

IN PERSPECTIVE

Caregivers as nation builders

Their work is undervalued and ignored in policy discourse. A rights-based approach is the way forward

ANSHUL DALMIA AND JWALIKA BALAJI

On August 15, as India celebrates its independence from British colonial rule, it is also a time to reaffirm that the government, through our Constitution, vows to provide equal rights and protection to all citizens. It is quite appropriate that the theme of this year's Independence Day is 'Honouring Freedom, Inspiring the Future'. The Union government, through this initiative, seeks to honour the sacrifices made by India's freedom fighters, while celebrating the vibrant journey of the nation. This year's campaign strives to foster national pride and unity by reminding people of our shared heritage and values.

While we acknowledge the services of our brave soldiers and defence personnel, there is another group of workers who are quietly building the nation in the shadows, by undertaking care-based services and cultivating important relationships. Even after the passage of 78 years since our independence, we have failed to provide them with any adequate legal protection. Despite their indispensable roles, these workers, including nurses, home-health aides, childcare providers, and family caregivers, remain legally unprotected, unregulated, and invisible in policy discourse. Their rights are still subject to the vagaries of individual establishments and the discretion of successive governments.

In India, the closest we see care being constitutionally recognised is in Article 45, which places a duty on the State to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years. However, even this provision is restrictive and extremely limited in scope – it applies only to children below the age of six and pertains solely to childhood care. Moreover, it is part of the Directive Principles of State Policy, which are non-justiciable and cannot be binding on the State. The Supreme Court has repeatedly described such directives as aspirational rather than enforceable rights.

Courts have, nevertheless, tried to bridge this gap, especially in elder and domestic care work. In Ashwani Kumar v. Union of India (2019), the Supreme Court called for monitoring geriatric care provisions and facilities, recognising that dignified care in old age is part of the right to life under Article 21. This was a step towards acknowledging that care is not merely welfare but also a right that the State must protect.

In Harbinder Kaur v. Navdeep (2023), the Punjab and Haryana High Court revised compensation for the death of a home-maker, explicitly recognising the economic value of unpaid domestic and caregiving labour. By doing so, the court affirmed that care work – often invisible in economic and legal frameworks – sustains families, communities, and the nation itself.

These judgements are significant, but they also highlight the limitations of our legal approach. Care is only recognised indirectly and is often tied to other rights such as dignity and life, rather than as a stand-alone, constitutional guarantee. This leaves the rights of care workers vulnerable to judicial discretion and policy shifts.

Why care must be a right

Care work is the infrastructure of our social and economic life. Every soldier was once a child nurtured by a caregiver. Every doctor, teacher, entrepreneur, and social reformer was sustained by invisible hours of feeding, teaching, and emotional support. Without care, no economy and society can function.

Yet, unlike the roads or defence systems, care is undervalued and underfunded. We measure GDP, but not the unpaid care that makes GDP possible. Recognising a constitutional right to care would mean acknowledging that caregivers deserve fair pay, protection, and dignity, and that those who need care should receive it as a matter of right, not charity.

If the State can guarantee fundamental rights to speech, equality, and life, why not the right to be cared for – and to care without exploitation? Embedding care in the Constitution could mean ensuring a minimum wage and social security protections for professional care workers and providing support systems for unpaid caregivers, such as pension credits and insurance coverage. The State's capacity to support elder care, disability care, and childcare should also be strengthened.

This Independence Day, as we talk about inspiring the future, we must also expand the idea of freedom to include freedom from neglect, invisibility, and legal limbo for those who hold our communities together. To truly honour our founding fathers' vision, we must ensure that care workers are no longer invisible citizens of India. A free India must value not only those who defend its borders but also those who build its foundations.

(The writers are research fellows at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy)

Degrees without borders: India's rise in transnational education

JANAKA PUSHPANATHAN

In recent strategic discussions with academic leaders and international collaborators, one topic recurs: the evolving aspirations of Indian students and the shifting dynamics of global education. The conversation is no longer just about where students wish to study, but how, why, and at what cost.

A 2024 IC3 Institute survey found that 43% of Indian parents exploring international education cited uncertainty in immigration and higher education policies as a key concern—up from 28% in 2022. Changing political climates, fluctuating visa norms, and evolving compliance requirements have made the journey less predictable.

Others are reassessing the cost-benefit equation. A 2023 RedSeer repost estimated that families now spend Rs 5-7 lakh merely on preparatory services, standardised testing, and admissions consultants. The study abroad journey — promoted as a high-investment pathway to global success — inspires ambition but demands students navigate increasing complexity.

These concerns point to something deeper: a quiet reckoning about the shifting terrain of global education and a growing interest in transnational education (TNE)—earning international qualifications without leaving India.

The recent growth of UK universities launching dual-degree programmes and branch campuses here reflects this shift. According to a 2024 British Council–FICCI report, India is now among the top three target countries for UK TNE expansion, signalling a model of mobility in which the knowledge, not the student, travels.

The desire for high-quality education and global exposure still drives Indian students abroad. In the past five years, their numbers have risen by 52.2%. The US, UK, and Canada remain top destinations, with India recently surpassing China as the largest source of international students in the US. In the UK, Indian student numbers have grown nearly 300% in just five years.

However, this momentum may plateau—or even reverse—for two reasons.

First, India's higher education ecosystem is expanding rapidly. The country now has 1,168 universities, 45,473 colleges, and 12,002 stand-alone institutions. To reach a 50% gross enrolment ratio (GER), capacity must more than double — a challenge, but also an opportunity.

Second, the number of Indian universities in international rankings has risen by 318%, a result of deliberate reforms under the National Education Policy (NEP), which champions "internationalisation at home".

Building global bridges

Indian universities are embracing global best practices through online courses, faculty exchanges, dual and joint degrees, and twinning programmes — not as symbolic gestures, but as part of a strategic shift towards sustainable, high-impact TNE.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced enabling regulations for twinning, joint, and dual degree programmes. Programmes like GIAN (Global Initiative for Academic Network) and SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration) are fostering partnerships and bringing global expertise into Indian classrooms.

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has also opened doors for foreign universities—including the UK's Coventry, Queen's University Belfast, and the University of Surrey, along with Australia's Deakin and Wollongong—to establish campuses in GIFT City, Gandhinagar. The US's Illinois Institute of Technology will soon open in Mumbai. Other leading global universities are setting up campuses across India: Imperial College London and the University of Liverpool in Bengaluru; the University of Southampton in Delhi NCR; and the University of Aberdeen and York University in Mumbai.

Under the British Council's Going Global Partnerships, 108 India-UK collaborations have been launched with £3 million in grants, involving 115 Indian and 58 UK institutions. These partnerships are co-developing TNE strategies, globally comparable curricula, and joint degree pathways.

The recent endorsement of 'India-UK Vision 2035' by the two prime ministers will further bolster education and skills partnerships, nurturing the next generation of global talent. Initiatives like the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI) are also strengthening research, leadership, and skills links. UKIERI's latest round includes 34 research grants in climate change, AI, net zero, and sustainable development. Targeted scholarships—such as the GREAT and Women in STEM awards—are widening access to high-demand fields.

The Annual Status of Higher Education (ASHE) 2024 report names Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka as frontrunners. Their GERs — 47% for Tamil Nadu, 41.3% for Kerala, and 36.2% for Karnataka — far exceed the national average of 28.4%. They also lead in institutional density and pupil-teacher ratios, creating more supportive learning environments.

These states are also pioneers in TNE. Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are collaborating with UK institutions to reform curricula and enhance student mobility. Telangana has partnered with the Welsh Government to deepen research and academic ties. Both Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have participated in the British Council's SCOUT programme (Scholars of Outstanding Undergraduate Talent), sending students to the University of East London and Durham University, respectively. Karnataka has signed MoUs with nine global universities for its upcoming KWIN City education hub.

Kerala, meanwhile, is investing Rs 25,000 crore in its 'Study in Kerala' initiative to position itself as a global education destination. Inbound student mobility is also rising, with increasing numbers from Asia and Africa choosing Indian institutions—a trend likely to grow if southern India's model is adopted more widely.

For many Indian families, studying abroad remains a financial stretch. The arrival of internationally branded degrees within India offers a compelling alternative. It combines the prestige and exposure of global education with the accessibility and cost-efficiency of a domestic degree.

(The writer is Director of South India, British Council.)

There are concerns about the slow pace of change in the country, with a promised election still months away, a struggling economy and familiar problems persisting

ANUPREETA DAS AND SAIF HASNAT

DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

One year on, hope turns to frustration in Bangladesh

Just over a year ago, after Sheikh Hasina, the autocratic leader of Bangladesh, had unleashed a brutal crackdown on protesting students, Abu Sayed stood defiantly in front of armed police officers in the city of Rangpur, his arms outstretched. Moments later he was hit by bullets and later died from his injuries, his family said. He was one of almost 1,400 to die in a mass uprising that eventually toppled Hasina's 15-year rule. Hasina later fled to India. She left behind a country on the brink of anarchy, but one also suffused with hope.

The students wanted to rebuild Bangladesh as a more equitable and less corrupt democracy. They helped install Muhammad Yunus, a Nobel Peace Prize-winning economist, atop an interim government tasked with leading the nation out of chaos into stability. But many Bangladeshis are frustrated with the slow pace of change, wondering whether protesters like Sayed sacrificed their lives in vain.

Under Yunus, Bangladesh has struggled to dislodge systemic problems like corruption, inflation, a paucity of jobs and an entrenched bureaucracy, which partly fed people's anger against Hasina.

Students have clamoured for democratic reforms to kick in faster. They also want swifter punishment for Hasina and the perpetrators of last year's attacks on protesters.

"We thought the country would become morally better, inequality would end, there would be fair elections, the killers would be punished, and that punishment would make criminals afraid. But nothing like that has happened," said Romjan Ali, Sayed's older brother. He added that without Yunus, though, it would probably be worse.

A new beginning

The burden of reforming one of the world's poorest and most corrupt countries has fallen largely on Yunus's shoulders, in a nation still divided and with nearly five dozen political parties.

Yunus's first task was to restore law and order. Looting, rioting and attacks on minorities had destabilised the country after the revolution. Although Bangladesh is more stable now, the government has been accused by human rights groups of not doing enough to control bouts of violence against Hindu minorities and supporters of Hasina, while Islamic hard-liners have tried to get a foothold. His next goal was to get an extensive reform agenda going. Yunus appointed 11 commissions to propose reforms, including changes to the electoral system, the judiciary and the police. The overarching goal was to make the country's democratic institutions, which Hasina had bent to her will, more resilient against authoritarian rule. But few of those changes have happened, and hope has turned to defeatism.

"Everything seems messy now," said Abdullah Shaleheen Oyon, a student at the University of Dhaka. He was shot in the leg during the protests, which were set off by anger over a quota system for government jobs. "Our dreams remain unfulfilled," he added, saying that the urgency with which student leaders had launched their plans is petering out.

Last week, Yunus announced that Bangladesh would hold elections under a reformed voting system in February, though many details need to be resolved before then amid disagreements between political parties. In an address for the anniversary of the overthrow of Hasina, Yunus said that his government had inherited a "completely broken" country but that it was recovering. He said he was preparing to hand over the running of the country to an elected government.

More than half of his tenure has been dominated by discussions with political parties about the timing of those elections.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party, which became the country's largest political party after Hasina's Awami League was decimated, has insisted that the interim government should implement only reforms necessary to hold free and fair elections, leaving further changes to an elected government.

But other political parties, including Bangladesh's largest Islamist party, Jamaat e Islami, have backed Yunus on the need for more extensive reform first. Some 30 political parties have been engaged on constitutional and governance issues for two months, said Ali Riaz, a political scientist and vice-chair of the National Unity Council, a government body tasked with overseeing the commissions' reform proposals.

He said they had done so without "any acrimonious exchange," painting a sanguine picture of progress. The various parties have agreed on issues like the need for an independent judiciary and term limits on the prime ministerial role, he added.

Choosing its leaders through a fully democratic process would be a significant step for Bangladesh, a country of 171 million people. Since Bangladesh became an independent nation in 1971, splitting from Pakistan where the ethnic Bengalis had faced violent suppression, its course has largely been shaped by two political dynasties. Hasina's father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, one of the country's founders, started the Awami League. Ziaur Rahman, who was a military officer central to the independence war and became president, founded the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, which is now led by his son from London.

The two dominant parties regularly passed the baton to each other before Hasina gripped power. The BNP refused to contest the last election in January 2024, calling it rigged. At the coming election in February, it is the Awami League that may be absent from the ballot because the party's activities are banned in the country.

Newer political parties have been trying to widen their reach by targeting populations in rural and semi-urban areas. Nahid Islam, a leader of the student uprising, started the National Citizen Party in February after he left Yunus's government. To drum up support, he embarked on a "nation-building" walk-athon in July.

Young voters are crucial for all parties: The median age in Bangladesh is around 26, and many of the country's young people grew up knowing only Hasina's rule.

"We, as a generation, have no good understanding of democracy because we haven't seen it," said Saeed Khan Shagor, a filmmaker who joined the protests last year. "So the state should make sure that citizens will live in peace, without any kind of fear."

Thahitun Mariam, a Bangladeshi American who has been working with community groups in Dhaka, said she worried another common problem would not be addressed: the marginalisation of women in the deeply traditional society. Without significant social change, she said, elections and reforms would simply recreate a "male-centric, male-dominated political reality."

Many female students who were highly visible in the 2024 protests, have retreated from their public roles. But Mariam said she was still hopeful that Bangladesh's new democracy would prove to be more inclusive.

As Bangladeshis took a moment on August 5 to note the anniversary of the downfall of the Hasina government, tens of thousands of people gathered in Dhaka, the capital, braving an evening drizzle to listen to Yunus's address.

The audience cheered as Yunus said that those who died in last year's mass uprising would be deemed national heroes, and Bangladesh would provide "legal protection to the families of the martyrs, the wounded fighters and the student protesters." But the celebrations masked growing acrimony from students about an as-yet unfulfilled promise of the revolution: bringing the perpetrators of the July 2024 killings to justice.

For most Bangladeshis, there are more everyday concerns, as the economy has sputtered. Economic growth slowed to 4.2% last year, down from 5.8% in 2023, according to the World Bank.

The New York Times

Recasting *rakhi* for equal ties

ANSHU SALUJA

This month, we celebrated the festival of Raksha Bandhan, or *rakhi*, as it is commonly called—a popular Hindu festival celebrated with gusto across many parts of India. The name comes from the wristband, or *rakhi*, that sisters tie on the right hands of their brothers. This act is believed to symbolise the bond of love between a brother and sister and to embody a lifetime promise that the brother will defend his sister in the face of any adversity.

I grew up in a home where Rakhi was celebrated with zeal. I remember my parents coming together with my aunts, uncles, and the extended family to take part in the ritual. In many households, including mine, the festival follows a familiar, well-rehearsed script.

Traditionally, sisters observe a fast in the morning, breaking it only after tying the *rakhi*. They are responsible for making all the ritual arrangements—buying a *rakhi* in advance, preparing sweets, and gathering accompaniments such as coconut and *kumkum*. The sister performs an *aarti*, puts a *tilak* on the brother's forehead and finally, ties a *rakhi* on his right wrist. In return, the brother presents her with money or some other gift as a token of his love.

The festival is customarily celebrated at the brother's home. The brother either goes in advance to fetch his married sister from her affinal home for the occasion, or she travels to the brother's place on her own for the purpose after securing due permission from her husband and affinal family elders. If she is unable to meet her brother for Rakhi due to large distances or another pressing reason, she remembers to send him the *rakhi* by post early enough so that it reaches him well in time for the festival.

Even in those cases where women enjoy a degree of financial independence and autonomy and the associated socio-economic advantages, a break from the established tradition is rare. The usual '*rakhi* routine' is assiduously followed by families every year. The same set of rituals are repeated and reproduced, mostly without any questioning or critical scrutiny.

Women continue to adhere to and perform the prescribed rituals, either as a tenuous compromise with patriarchy or out of deference to accepted socio-religious codes. Very often, they themselves hold on to and willingly go along with the existing social and moral order. They also try their best to maintain it at times, even if it works against them. In any event, resistance is difficult and involves its own costs.

The festival of Rakhi thus becomes an important social and ritual mechanism for upholding the status quo. It consolidates dominant patrilineal, patrilocal and patriarchal structures that work by default to the advantage of men and against women. Through festivals like Rakhi, these unequal power structures and relations receive sustenance. They continue to remain dominant, and resisting or breaking away from them becomes all the more challenging. Increasingly, they are even moulded and remoulded by glossy advertisements, popular culture and pressures from a market-driven modernity to fit the demands of changing times.

The festival of Rakhi dictates and concretises particular gender roles, relations, positions and expectations. In most homes where Rakhi is conventionally celebrated, children—whether boys or girls—often grow up internalising deeply gendered constructions about the roles that men (brothers) and women (sisters) are expected to perform. Rakhi, of course, is not alone in this. Many other festivals, rituals and religious/cultural celebrations that we regularly partake in are equally complicit in laying down explicitly gendered codes of behaviour. Such observances also serve to make sure that these established gendered codes are duly enacted and legitimised through repetition.

To break this cycle, we will have to call out the clearly gendered messaging built into many of our ritual and cultural practices and performances. Existing gendered messages embedded in popular festivals and rituals will have to be consciously subverted/inverted. Alternatively, many of these observances will have to be encoded with entirely new messaging.

Perhaps, the festival of Rakhi should then be pitched as an entry point to advocate equitable relationships between brothers and sisters and demand an end to discrimination against girl children by families and communities. Following from this, the festival can be creatively used to emphasise the need to forge mutual relationships, free from prejudice and gendered preferences, and rooted in parity, equality, respect, and, of course, familial care and love.

(The writer is an assistant professor of history at Azim Premji University, Bhopal)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: AUGUST 1975

Emergency saved nation from chaos, says Ahmed

New Delhi, August 14
In a broadcast to the nation on the eve of the 28th anniversary of the Independence Day, President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed said that "while the present Emergency is no doubt a passing phase, never again liberty should be allowed to degenerate into license." The country, he said, is emerging from one of the gravest challenges in its history. He defended the proclamation of Emergency and said that this timely action saved the country from "disruption and chaos."

25 YEARS AGO: AUGUST 2000

Narayanan slams 'unholy alliance'

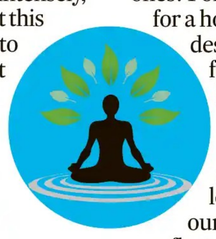
New Delhi, Aug 14 (PTI)
President K R Narayanan today expressed grave concern over an "unholy alliance" between criminals and politicians and the erosion of tolerance among different faiths and ideologies. In his address to the nation on the eve of the 53rd anniversary of Independence Day, he referred to the ongoing hostage crisis involving Kannada film actor Rajkumar and said the society and government must assert authority over crime and banditry.

OASIS | SHRI ESWARAN

The myth of manifestation

The new age motivational circle claim that "The Universe Manifests Your Desires". What it implies is that the universe knows your desires, it has the power and actively arranges circumstances to "fulfill" them. However, this seemingly empowering idea doesn't stand grounds upon scrutiny. The primary fallacy is that it ascribes human features to the impersonal system called universe. Treats that as a person-like entity. As though it can hear, understand, choose and respond to your wishes and desires. But the universe is not a conscious wish-granting mechanism.

We project the universe as conscious willful being with moral compass. This is anthropomorphising the Universe. The idea of manifestation suggests that if you desire something intensely, the universe will grant it. But this assumes the universe exists to serve personal wishes. What happens when desires conflict—like a farmer praying for rain and a wedding planner for sunshine? Even individuals hold contradictory desires. If the universe fulfilled all, it would collapse under contradiction. And when desires go unfulfilled, blame shifts to not "believing enough," creating a circular logic which is impossible to disprove.



Does the universe respond to the surface desire or to the deep-rooted ones? For example, someone wishing for a house – perfectly valid, tangible desire. But in and through the fulfilment of that desire, there is a longing for security, happiness, contentment, or peace. Does the universe grant only the surface desire, leaving us to seek deeper on our own? When one consciously reflects on various desires, it brings clarity, focus followed by proper effort towards its fulfilment. This inner alignment can certainly influence the outcome, but it should not be mistaken as the cosmos rearranging itself to grant one's wishes. It is a mistake to confuse internal psychological clarity with external metaphysical causation. Outcomes in the world are driven by sustained effort, not by mere wishing. The law of life is: You get what you deserve, not what you desire. External results from the effort coupled with 'X' factor beyond our reach. Referred as nature, luck, planetary positions or God. But that does not imply the universe is responding to your commands. After all, the individual is not the creator of the universe — only its perceiver.

Assam rolls out arms licence scheme for 'original inhabitants'

Opposition parties question move amid eviction drive

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

Amid the eviction drives targeting Bengali-speaking Muslims, the BJP-led government in Assam on Thursday launched a scheme to offer arms licences to "original inhabitants" living in "remote and vulnerable" areas.

Launching a portal meant for arms licences in Guwahati, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said under the special scheme, original inhabitants of Assam, indigenous Indian citizens with a genuine threat to life and safety due to the vulnerability of the region in which they reside, can apply for licences.

The application will be individually scrutinised from the perspective of threat perception, personal security requirements and the necessity of possessing licensed arms, based on field-level inputs and assessments by designated police and intelligence authorities.

The state Cabinet had approved the proposal for arms licences on May 28.

Sarma said the licences would be offered in accordance with the norms under the Arms Act, 1959, and the Arms Rules, 2016.

Although the demand for arms licences is longstanding, the launch of the scheme amid eviction drives targeting Bengali-speaking Muslims has raised doubts. BJP insiders said the scheme was intended for indigenous residents living in areas where "Bangladesh-origin" Muslims are in the majority.

According to BJP leaders, Sarma was referring to Bengali-speaking Muslims, whom the saffron party considers "illegal migrants" from neighbouring Bangladesh and a threat to the identity of indigenous communities.

The CM said licences would be granted after rigorous field-level security assessments, police verification and the recommendation of the Senior Superintendent of Police in the district.

Congress opposes

The Opposition Congress said the scheme contradicted the state government's repeated appeals to various insurgent groups to give up weapons and join the peace process.

"We have failed to understand the need for giving weapons to vulnerable citizens. If such a need has arisen in the state, it suggests a failure of the Home Department and the CM in maintaining law and order," Congress MLA and Leader of the Opposition Debabrata Saikia told reporters.

"This may create violence and communal tension," Saikia said, while demanding the immediate scrapping of the scheme.

SC to examine plea on 'detention' of Bangladeshis

NEW DELHI, DHNS: On Thursday, the Supreme Court agreed to consider a petition claiming that Bengali-speaking migrant workers are being held on the assumption that they are Bangladeshi citizens; however, it declined to issue any temporary order against such detentions, citing potential repercussions.

Taking up a petition filed by West Bengal Migrant Welfare Board, a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said, "Suppose someone has come illegally to India, how to deal with that situation? If they don't detain, he will disappear." The court said it is not keen to pass any interim order with regard to the detention. The bench felt that any order would have consequences, especially for people who genuinely came from across the border.

The court said that it cannot ignore the ground reality that there are risks of foreigners illegally infiltrating India.

"Some mechanism is required for bona fide workers. Either state of origin can issue some kind of card... and local police accept it as prima facie proof of his having come for livelihood," the bench said

The court said States where these migrant workers are working have the right to inquire from their state of origin about their bona fides, but the problem is in the interregnum.

Village-led cancer control in Kerala draws WHO praise

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The fight against cancer by a village in Kerala has received global recognition, with the World Health Organisation's journal publishing a study on its community-driven approach to cancer control.

The study on 'Cancer Mukta Kannapuram' (Cancer-Free Kannapuram), a grassroots programme in Kannapuram village in Kerala's Kannur district, was featured in the WHO South-East Asia Journal of Public Health as the 'Kannapuram Model'.

Launched in 2016, the programme focused on regular cancer screenings for villagers and has played a crucial role in the early detection and treatment of cancer, particularly among women, benefiting hundreds of residents.

The Kannapuram panchayat, in collaboration with the Malabar Cancer Centre, is spearheading the programme. Similar initiatives involving regular screenings for cancer and other lifestyle diseases are now being implemented across Kerala.

According to the study published by the WHO, 96% of women over the age of 30 in Kannapuram participated in breast cancer screening camps, with a detection rate of 0.96 per 1,000.

"Continuous community sensitisation about cancer, alleviation of fear and misconceptions, accessible and approachable screening programme settings, and an efficient patient navigation system led by female members of the local self-government institution culminated in the successful 'Kannapuram model', in terms of screening participation and treatment adherence," the study noted.

Kannapuram Grama Panchayat President Rethi K told *DH* that the key to the initiative's success was dispelling fear and stigma surrounding cancer and ensuring regular access to screening camps.

"We launched the programme after noticing a worrying number of cancer cases in the panchayat, especially among women," she said.

Naga flag, constitution and integration are non-negotiable, says rebel group

GUWAHATI, DHNS: The issues related to 'Naga National Flag, Constitution and integration' of all Naga contiguous areas are non-negotiable, NSCN-IM, the Naga insurgent group in ceasefire, said on Thursday as it celebrated 79th 'Naga Independence Day'.

"We do not demand anything from India and Burma (Myanmar), but we declare and proclaim what is rightfully ours. That is why Nagalim's unique history, our territory and sovereignty, Naga National Flag, Naga National Constitution (Yehzabo), and integration of all Naga contagious areas are non-negotiable. Hence, if India and Burma respect the history of the Nagas, we will respect theirs ten times more," NSCN-IM, General Secretary or Ato Kilonser (prime minister), Thuingaleng Muivah said after hoisting the 'Naga National Flag' at its 'general headquarters' in Hebron.

The Naga insurgent group has been celebrating August 14 as 'Naga Independence Day'.

The stand is seen as another setback to negotiations to end nearly 80-year-long conflict.

Naga conflict

Many Naga groups, including the NSCN-IM, claim that Nagas were never part of India and Myanmar and had declared 'independence' on August 14, 1947. The NSCN continued the armed movement till signing the ceasefire in 1997.

The group signed 'Framework Agreement' in presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on August 3, 2015. The NSCN-IM claims that in the Framework Agreement, the Centre agreed for a concept of 'shared sovereignty' for finding a solution, but the government rejected such claims.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

WHAT DO YOU FEEL LIKE WATCHING TONIGHT, HONEY?
HM...
HOW ABOUT ANYTHING THAT ISN'T NEWS, SPORTS, ACTION, SCARY OR LOUD?
ALL THAT LEAVES IS ROMANTIC COMEDIES
IT'S LIKE YOU READ MY MIND, DEAR!
5-10

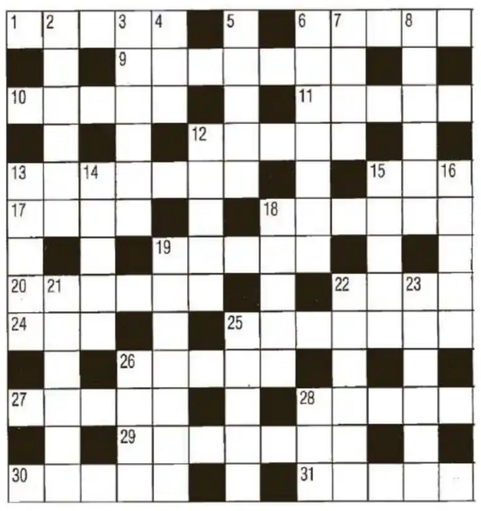
Hagar The Horrible

Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12226



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 Show too much interest in spoon bending (5)
6 Stock farm managed with a companion (5)
9 Flighty character with big legs! (7)
10 Correspond to the right sound (5)
11 A cat's little bits (5)
12 Language of north India (5)
13 Impossible operation? (7)
15 Local abbreviation (3)
17 Bad effect the cane can have on the skin? (4)
18 A polite word appeals to the Oriental (6)
19 Bunter can! (5)
20 Spirit and liveliness of a new priest (6)
22 It's possibly right for porridge (4)
24 Sea view, we're told (3)
25 It's hard to be one of a girl's best friends (7)
26 Links with China, possibly (5)
27 The beastly character of new Labour, ducks! (5)
28 Quietly rested - that's the stuff! (5)
29 Maybe Spain for the Spanish, pet (7)
30 Hots up the preliminaries (5)
31 Wat a revolting fellow he was! (5)

DOWN
2 Neither figures as the blue-eyed blonde type (6)
3 Stupid wrestling bouts, sweetheart! (6)
4 Bird in the sky? (3)
5 Repeatedly makes a profit (5)
6 Depend on receiving fresh aid quickly (7)
7 In a feast, ideally, one has wine (4)
8 Accommodation on the American college grounds (6)
12 Go away and work during a strike (3,2)
13 Horses reserved for the master (5)
14 Shoot a couple of Poles and some pipers (5)
15 Show without the use of mime (5)
16 Something manly to which a poet holds the key (5)
18 Clear the area (5)
19 Are they good at chess? (7)
21 Dignified when drunkenly teased (6)
22 Fishy or rat-like? (6)
23 Stir up something bad with egg on! (6)
25 Name of a Canadian author (5)
26 Expense that's very big in court (4)
28 When whipped, it's a dog! (3)

ACROSS
1 Tree (5)
6 Plank (5)
9 Tea urn (7)
10 Choose (5)
11 Rule (5)
12 Grasping tool (5)
13 Hunter (7)
15 Be seated (3)
17 Hire (4)
18 God-like (6)
19 Pale (5)
20 Royal residence (6)
22 Eons (4)
24 Previous day (3)
25 Sportsman (7)
26 Coin side (5)
27 Pry (5)
28 Sensational (5)
29 Reel (7)
30 Achievements (5)
31 Mock (5)

DOWN
2 Suffer (6)
3 View (6)
4 Rodent (3)
5 Giver (5)
6 Good deal (7)
7 Minerals (4)
8 Recover (6)
12 Anxious (5)
13 Nonsense (5)
14 Corner (5)
15 Scorch (5)
16 Curt (5)
18 Hollows (5)
19 Takes (7)
21 Tree-lined street (6)
22 Fascination (6)
23 Morals (6)
25 Proverb (5)
26 Multitude (4)
28 Permit (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12225

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 4, Punish 7, Car-niva-l 8, Apiary 10, F-Luke 13, Mill 14, Fate 15, Mane 16, Nay 17, Rain 19, Atom 21, Organised 23, PAYE 24, E-den 26, W-OK 27, Nor-a 29, Skis 32, Adds 33, Least 34, Sin-bad 35, Land's End 36, Re-ally.
DOWN: 1, Sc-off 2, Grout(-s) 3, Di-me 4, P-L-ain 5, Nail 6, Stream 9, P-L-ease 11, Lab. 12, Kerry 13, Manners 15, M-I-a 16, No-D 18, Agenda 20,Ten-SE 21, O-a-K 22, Ida 23, Polite 25, His 28, Oddly 30, K-ar-en 31, Study 32, Abel 33, Ludo.

EASY
ACROSS: 4, Veneer 7, Broccoli 8, Larder 10, Stabs 13, Slim 14, Soda 15,Tear 16, Spy 17,Tail 19, Brat 21, Forcefeed 23, Want 24, Coda 26, Urn 27, Hate 29, Raid 32, Fuss 33, Aside 34, Steers 35, Emeralds 36, Credit.
DOWN: 1, Abyss 2, Nomad 3, Acts 4, Villa 5, Norm 6, Exempt 9, Air bed 11,Ton 12, Baton 13, Selects 15,Tic 16, Sad 18, Arthur 20, Rears 21, Fan 22, Foe 23, Writer 25, Kid 28, Asset 30, Aisle 31, Dense 32, Feud 33, Afro.

◆SU-DO-KU-6676◆

	9					5		7
7	8				3			
		1			2			9
	2	3			4	9		
		5	8			3	2	
8			3			4		
			7				6	5
2		9					1	

medium

SOLUTION TO 6675

6	3	2	1	9	7	4	5	8
9	8	4	6	3	5	2	1	7
5	1	7	2	4	8	3	9	6
4	2	5	9	6	1	8	7	3
1	9	3	7	8	2	6	4	5
8	7	6	3	5	4	9	2	1
2	4	1	8	7	3	5	6	9
7	6	8	5	2	9	1	3	4
3	5	9	4	1	6	7	8	2

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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							RACK 1
E1	R1	H4	I1	V4	D2	T1	
							RACK 2
R1	C3	M3	O1	A1	A1	L1	Triple Word Score
							RACK 3
F4	G2	R1	A1	I1	F4	E1	Double Word Score
							RACK 4
H4	M3	R1	L1	S1	A1	A1	

PAR SCORE 150-160
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

D2	E1	C3	A1	P3	O1	D2	RACK 1 =	76
T1	H4	R1	O1	W4			RACK 2 =	19
M3	O1	D2	I1	S1	H4		RACK 3 =	12
H4	A1	Y4	W4	A1	R1	D2	RACK 4 =	67
							JUDD'S TOTAL	174

PAR SCORE 115-125

HITORI-3130

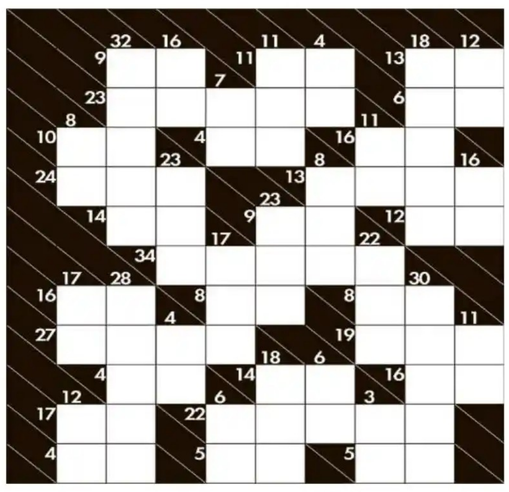
7	1	3	1	5	8	8	4
4	3	7	1	6	2	1	8
3	1	1	5	2	6	4	1
5	3	2	6	1	1	3	7
8	5	4	7	1	1	2	6
3	4	6	1	7	3	8	1
2	2	8	3	4	7	5	8
1	2	8	4	8	3	6	5

SOLUTION TO 3129

■	8	■	4	1	3	2	5
7	3	5	■	6	8	■	1
4	■	8	3	■	5	1	2
2	4	■	5	7	■	3	■
5	■	3	1	8	7	4	6
3	5	■	8	■	4	■	7
1	2	4	■	3	■	7	8
■	1	2	7	4	6	■	3

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3130



SOLUTION TO 3129

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3647

1			8		4			
			3	5		9		
7		3					5	
						3		
				2			4	8
		9		6				
5			2		8	4		6
							9	

SOLUTION TO 3646

3	2	1	8	4	5	7	9	6
6	4	8	2	9	7	3	1	5
5	7	9	1	3	6	4	8	2
7	9	2	5	6	8	1	4	3
1	3	5	4	2	9	8	6	7
8	6	4	3	7	1	5	2	9
2	8	7	9	1	3	6	5	4
4	5	3	6	8	2	9	7	1
9	1	6	7	5	4	2	3	8

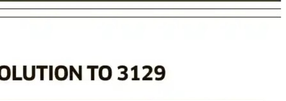
To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NFDOR
LNABK
ZEHEWE
RYOPSE



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @Play.Jumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

_____ ' _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: STRUM FROWN PRIMER MERELY
Answer: They chose to lease a home instead of buying one because it was their — "PREFER-RENTS"

GALLANTRY AWARDS: Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medal given only thrice; Vir Chakra for 9 pilots

7 officers get rare military honour for Op Sindoor

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Seven top officials of the armed forces, including four from the Indian Air Force, were on Thursday selected for the Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medal (SYSM) — a rare and distinguished honour — for the role they played during Operation Sindoor.

President Droupadi Murmu also announced Vir Chakras — India's third-highest wartime gallantry award — for nine Indian Air Force pilots.

The Vir Chakra awardees are Group Captains Ranjeet Singh Sidhu, Manish Arora, Animesh Patni and Kunal Kalra; Wing Commanders Joy Chandra; Squadron Leaders Sarthak Kumar, Siddhant Singh and Rizwan Malik; and Flight Lieutenant Aarshveer Singh Thakur.

The pilots participated in strikes across the border targeting terror infrastructure as well Pakistani military establishment during the hits on LeT and JeM headquarters, and subsequent conflict during which Pakistani attacks were thwarted by India's air defence systems like S-400 and Aakash missiles.

Murmu also approved six Vir Chakras to bravehearts from the Indian Army (4) and Central Armed Police Forces (2).

The announcement comes days after IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal AP Singh said that at least six Pakistani aircraft were shot down during the India-Pak confrontation in May.

The IAF recipients are Air Marshal Narmdeshwar Tiwari, Vice Chief of the IAF; Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra, AOC-in-C of the Western Air Command; Air Marshal Awadhesh Bharti, Director General Air Operations at IAF headquarters; and Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor, AOC-in-C of the South Western Air Command.

Two Agniveers get Sena Medal

In a first, two Agniveers from the Indian Army have been conferred a prestigious military honour for their acts of gallantry, officials said.

Agniveer Kulveer Singh of 7 Sikh Light Infantry and Agniveer Mood Muralinaik of 851 Light Regiment have been conferred the Sena Medal (Gallantry).

From the India Army, Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, GOC-in-C of the Northern Command and Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, Director General of Military Operations, were the recipients.

The lone recipient from the Indian Navy was Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh, the former FOC-in-C of the Western Naval Command during the four-day India-Pakistan confrontation in May. Vice Admiral Singh retired on July 31.

The SYSM — the wartime equivalent to Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) for distinguished service — is a rare decoration that has been given only three times so far.

The previous winners are Lt Gen AS Kalkat, who was the overall commander of the Indian Peacekeeping Force in Sri Lanka; Air Marshal Vinod Patney, the Western Air Commander; and Lt Gen H M Khanna, the Northern Army Commander during the Kargil War.

The President also approved four Kirti Chakra — the second-highest peacetime gallantry awards — and 16 Shaurya Chakra. All the Kirti Chakra winners are from the army.

Operation Sindoor will be the theme of the 79th Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort on Friday.

People walk at the India Gate that is lit in colours of the Indian national flag, on the eve of the country's Independence Day, in New Delhi on Thursday. AFP

18 BSF personnel get gallantry medal; 2 awarded Vir Chakra posthumously

Mohammed Imteyaj

Deepak Chingakham

NEW DELHI, PTI: Eighteen Border Security Force (BSF) troops have been awarded gallantry medals for displaying "conspicuous bravery" and "unmatched valour" during Operation Sindoor against Pakistan, including two personnel who were decorated with the Vir Chakra posthumously.

The Vir Chakra, a wartime medal which is third in precedence after the Param Vir Chakra and Kirti Chakra, has been bestowed on Sub Inspector Mohammed Imteyaj and Constable Deepak Chingakham.

The medals for gallantry for the troops, some of whom destroyed enemy surveillance cameras while others neutralised drone attacks, were announced by the Union government on the eve of the 79th Independence Day.

"This Independence Day, 16 Brave Seema Praharis (border guards) are being awarded Gallantry Medals for their conspicuous bravery; unmatched valour, for being resolute during the Operation Sindoor. The medals are a testament to the Nation's faith; trust reposed in India's First Line of Defence: The Border Security Force," the BSF said.

Under Operation Sindoor undertaken by the three defence forces along with the BSF on the border, India targeted terrorist and military facilities in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir from May 7-10 in retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack.

A unit commanded by under-probation Assistant Commandant Abhishek Srivastav was deployed at the highly sensitive border post at Kharkola in Jammu, only 200 metres from the India-Pakistan International Border (IB).

On May 10, Srivastav and his troops—SI Imteyaj, Head Constable Brij Mohan Singh and constables Depeswar Barman, Bhupendra Bajpai, Rajan Kumar, Basavaraja Shivappa Sunkada and Chingakham—engaged a swarm of Pakistani drones and neutralised them, but one UAV dropped a mortar shell in their bunker.

SI Imteyaj and Constable Chingakham suffered grievous injuries in this blast. Despite the serious nature of injuries, SI Imteyaj "bravely" continued to retaliate and motivated his troops, his citation said. He was evacuated to Army Hospital, Jammu, where he succumbed to his injuries. Chingakham, despite his "critical" condition, refused evacuation and continued to fight.

Op Sindoor historic example in fight against terror: Prez

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Lauding the nation's decisive response to the Pahalgam terrorist attack, President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday said 'Operation Sindoor' showed that our armed forces are prepared to meet any eventuality when it comes to guarding the nation.

In her address to the nation on the eve of the 79th Independence Day, the President said, "With strategic clarity and technical capability, they destroyed terrorist hubs across the border. I believe, Operation Sindoor will go down in history as an example in humanity's fight against terrorism."

"Operation Sindoor was also a test case of the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission in the defence sector. The outcome has proved that we are on the right path. Our indigenous manufacturing has achieved the critical level that makes us self-sufficient in meeting many of our security requirements. These are landmark achievements in India's defence history since Independence," she said.

Highlighting the economic development, the President said India is well on the way to becoming self-reliant and moving ahead with confidence to be a developed economy by 2047.

Noting that the country's economy is in the pink of health with inflation under control, and exports rising, she said India's achievements are more noticeable with GDP growing at 6.5% in the last fiscal, making the country one of fastest growing economies in the world.

President Droupadi Murmu addresses the nation on the eve of the 79th Independence Day. PTI

She attributed the achievements to the carefully calibrated reforms, sagacious economic management, hard work and dedication of farmers.

She also said the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has brought in far-reaching changes, aligning learning with values and skills with tradition. The government has created the most conducive ecosystem for those with entrepreneurial aspirations, she added.

India's global chess domination was lauded by the President. The country is on the cusp of "transformative changes" in the sporting arena, she said.

"The spirit of Swadeshi was strengthened by Mahatma Gandhi to promote the products made by the sweat and toil of Indian artisans. The idea of Swadeshi has been inspiring our national endeavours like Make-in-India initiative and Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Let us resolve to buy and use Indian products," the President said.

TN Guv criticises DMK govt in I-day speech; CM to skip 'At Home'

CHENNAI, DHNS: In an unusual move, Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi on Thursday used his Independence Day speech to castigate the DMK dispensation on various counts, including increasing suicides, drug abuse among youth, and atrocities on Dalits, and alleged that women are "scared to come out of their houses" due to rising sexual offences and violence against them.

Hitting back, the government announced that Chief Minister M K Stalin and his cabinet colleagues will boycott the 'At Home' reception to be hosted by Ravi on Friday on the occasion of the 79th Independence Day.

Higher Education Minister Govi Chezhian said the decision was taken to show their protest against the Governor for his activities that are against Tamil Nadu and its interests. Chezhian also said he will not attend the convocation ceremonies of two universities to be presided over by the Governor next week.

The governor's remarks and the Chief Minister's decision escalated the tensions between the Raj Bhavan and Fort St George.

In his speech, the Governor claimed that standards of teaching and learning are sharply declining in government schools and cited data that more than 50% of high school students cannot do simple two-digit addition and subtraction.

Talking about drug abuse, the Governor said while the rise in ganja consumption is marginal, there is a steep increase in consumption of synthetic drugs, which are far more dangerous.

'Can't ignore Pahalgam': SC on plea for J&K statehood

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Union government to clarify its stand to a plea seeking restoration of statehood of Jammu and Kashmir while observing that it cannot ignore the ground situations, including what happened in Pahalgam.

A bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to seek instructions within eight weeks as per his request to pleas filed by Zahoor Ahmad Bhat and Irfan Hafiz Lone.

Appearing for the Centre, Mehta submitted that there were several considerations which go into the decision making process.

He said, "We assured statehood after elections, but there is a peculiar position of this part of the country".

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for the applicants, submitted that the Centre had assured this court during the hearing on the validity of dilution of Article 370 on restoration of statehood, it has been 21 months since then.

"You cannot ignore what happened in Pahalgam. It is for Parliament and the executive to take a decision," the bench said.

The plea filed in October 2024 claimed that the non-restoration of the status of statehood of Jammu and Kashmir in a time-bound manner violated the idea of federalism, which formed a part of the basic structure of the Constitution.

"It is of utmost importance that the status of statehood is restored so that the people can enjoy autonomy in their individual identity and also play an important part in the overall development of the country," the plea said.

The Union government gave an assurance in this regard as recorded in the judgment of December 11, 2023, when the apex court rejected a challenge to the validity of dilution of Article 370 of the Constitution.

India warns Pak of 'consequences' amid war rhetoric

NEW DELHI, PTI

India on Thursday warned Pakistan of "painful consequences" to "any misadventure" targeting it and advised the neighbouring country to desist from "war-mongering" and "hateful" rhetoric.

New Delhi's strong reaction came in response to Pakistan Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir's nuclear threat as well as offensive comments against India by several Pakistani leaders, including Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Defence Minister Khawaja Asif.

"We have seen reports regarding a continuing pattern of reckless, war-mongering and hateful comments from Pakistani leadership against India," external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

"Pakistan would be well-advised to temper its rhetoric as any misadventure will have painful consequences, as was demonstrated recently," Jaiswal said in an indirect reference to India's Operation Sindoor.

In an address to the Pakistani diaspora in Florida last week, Munir reportedly said that Pakistan could use its nuclear weapons to take down India and "half the world" in case his country faced an existential threat in a future war with India. He also warned that Islamabad would destroy Indian infrastructure if it hit the water flow to Pakistan.

In response to Munir's remarks, India on Monday said his threat reinforced the well-held doubts about the integrity of nuclear command and control in that country, where the military is "hand-in-glove" with terrorist groups.

The civilian leadership of Pakistan, too, has been upping the ante against India in the last few days. Sharif vowed to teach India "a lesson" if it tried to control the flow of water of cross-border rivers.

Court of Arbitration

Jaiswal also trashed a ruling this week by the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague on cross-border rivers between the two countries. In the ruling, the Court said India should allow the flow of the waters of the western rivers under the Indus Waters Treaty for Pakistan's unrestricted use.

India maintains US ties despite Trump's tariffs, Pakistan bonhomie

Bilateral meet, annual military drill on the cards

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Notwithstanding President Donald Trump's tariff tirade against New Delhi and his administration's bonhomie with the Pakistan Army, India appears keen to maintain its strategic partnership with the United States, particularly in the areas of defence.

New Delhi is set to host a delegation for the India-US Defence Policy Group meeting. Indian and US soldiers will also take part in the 21st edition of their annual drill in Alaska from September 1 to 14.

Besides, the diplomats and senior defence officials from both sides will take part in the intersessional meeting of the India-US 2+2 dialogue, setting the stage for External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's visits to Washington, DC, to meet their respective counterparts Marco Rubio and Pete Hegseth.

The two sides also have plans to sign a new 10-year Framework for the US-India Major Defence Partnership in the 21st Century this year, besides starting negotiations for a reciprocal defence procurement agreement.

Union Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal recently said: "We remain focused on the substantive agenda that the two countries have committed to, and we hope that the relationship will continue to move forward based on mutual respect and shared interests."

He was replying to a question on the future course of New Delhi's relations with Washington, DC, in the wake of Trump's decision to impose a 50% tariff on all Indian exports to the US.

The bilateral relations also came under stress due to Trump's relentless claims about his role in brokering the May 10 India-Pakistan ceasefire, as well as his administration's bonhomie with the Pakistan Army and blatant disregard for India's views on the export of terrorism from Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

SHASHI THAROOR
Congress leader

"I hear some people are accusing India of being 'recalcitrant'. I say, far better to be recalcitrant than to be tractable, submissive or acquiescent to injustice.

SUNIL BARTHWAL
Commerce Secretary

"The status of a US delegation visiting India for the next round of bilateral trade talks will be known closer to the scheduled date of August 25.

'No pause on Russian oil imports'

India has not halted oil purchases from Russia in response to the US President's tariff threat and continues to buy based solely on economic considerations, said AS Sahney, Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the country's largest oil firm, reports PTI from New Delhi.

The US delegation for the Defence Policy Dialogue is expected to be led by Undersecretary of Defence for Policy Elbridge Colby, who will join India's Defence Secretary R K Singh in chairing the meeting and exploring ways to expand defence industrial cooperation, implementation of foundational defence agreements signed by the two governments, military cooperation, and exercises, besides reviewing ongoing cooperative activities in the Indo-Pacific region, a source in New Delhi told *DH*.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration wants India to buy more military hardware from the US, including the fifth-generation F-35 fighter aircraft. New Delhi, however, has not yet officially started talks with Washington, DC, for this acquisition.

"As far as the question of defence acquisition is concerned, the procurement processes continue as per established procedures," Jaiswal told journalists in New Delhi.

DEEP-SEA MISSION

Indian aquanauts make record 5,000m dive

NEW DELHI, DHNS

A year before India's first deep-sea human submersible is to be launched, two Indian aquanauts have dived to a depth of 4,000-5,000m in the North Atlantic to gain experience on underwater communication, acoustics, and navigation that would help them operate the indigenous ocean-craft Matsya-6000, officials said.

With a spherical human capsule that can house three individuals, Matsya-6000 is likely to plunge to a depth of 500m by mid-2026 and 6,000m in the Bay of Bengal by December 2027.

"Matsya's first dive to 500m has been delayed by about six months as the floating foam for the human capsule is expected from France by November," Ministry of Earth Sciences Secretary M Ravichandran told *DH*.

As a preparation exercise, two personnel from Chennai's National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) undertook the Atlantic Ocean dive on August 5-6 at Horta off the Portuguese coast in the French vessel Nautile.

Even though the two countries were discussing it for two years, the project was kept closely guarded, and the NIOT team got just a week's notice to undertake the journey.

One of them — Commander J P Singh, a retired Indian Navy official — became the first Indian to dive to a depth of 5,000m.

On August 6, he went to a depth of 5,000m and spent nearly four hours at the bottom, picking samples using a robotic arm and testing the emergency life support system. The journey to the bottom took almost 2.5 hours.

A day earlier, NIOT technical staff R Ramesh went to a depth of 4,000m and spent five hours practising navigation skills and tracking objects.

The two aquanauts, senior NIOT and MoES officials, and Science Minister Jitendra Singh talked to reporters here after the team's return from France.

"India's quest for a double conquest of space and the deep ocean has taken off. This marks the beginning of value addition to India's economic growth story from two sectors that remained relatively under-explored or totally unexplored in the last seven to eight decades," said Singh.

Shukla set to return

Meanwhile, India's second astronaut, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, was likely to reach India this weekend, and meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi to share his experience at the International Space Station. He is expected to be present at the National Space Day celebrations on August 23.

TDP wins ZPTC by-elections in Pulivendula and Vontimitta

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

For the first time in decades, the TDP has successfully breached the family stronghold of YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy by winning the Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency (ZPTC) bypoll in Pulivendula, Kadapa district.

The TDP also secured victory in the Vontimitta ZPTC, marking a significant political shift in the region. Pulivendula holds deep personal significance for Jagan, as it is his home constituency, where his family has maintained an unbroken political legacy for over four decades.

The by-election was necessitated following the death of YSRCP leader T Maheshwar Reddy in February 2023. TDP candidate Mareddy Latha Reddy, wife of former MLC and TDP Pulivendula in-charge Mareddy Ravindra Reddy, defeated YSRCP's T Hemanth Reddy by over 6,035 votes. In Pulivendula, the YSRCP candidate lost the security deposit by securing only 683 votes.

In Vontimitta, TDP candidate Muddu Krishna Reddy emerged winner securing 12,780 votes, while YSRCP candidate polled 6,513 votes.

However, YSRCP alleged that TDP won by rigging. Former minister Perni Nani alleged that non-local TDP workers were allowed to vote in the presence of district collector.

Shilpa Shetty, husband booked in Rs 60-crore cheating case

MUMBAI, PTI: Mumbai Police have registered a case against actor Shilpa Shetty and her husband Raj Kundra for allegedly duping a businessman of Rs 60.4 crore in a loan-cum-investment deal in their now defunct company Best Deal TV Private Limited, officials said on Thursday.

However, a lawyer representing Shetty and businessman Kundra denied the allegations, saying this was a "baseless and malicious case" aimed at maligning his clients, and appropriate action was being initiated against the perpetrators.

Juhu-based businessman Deepak Kothari (60), director of Lotus Capital Finance Services (non-banking financial company) in his police complaint mentioned that he lost his money in a loan-cum-investment deal, which was struck after he was introduced to Raj Kundra, Shilpa Shetty through one Rajesh Arya, he said in his FIR.

Kundra and Shetty were then directors of Best Deal TV Private Limited, an online retail platform. Through Arya, they had sought a loan of Rs 75 crore, but to avoid higher taxation they allegedly showed it as an investment, as per the complaint.

Annual FASTag pass of Rs 3,000 from today

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The annual highway toll pass of Rs 3,000 for private cars, jeeps, and vans will be rolled out from August 15.

The government has opened the pre-booking window for FASTag-based annual passes that allow users to cross up to 200 highway toll booths on a single recharge of Rs 3,000 within a year. Each toll crossing counts as one trip.

A dedicated link for activation of the annual pass is available on the Rajmarg Yatra app. One can also log in to the official NHAI/MoRTH portal using registered mobile number, or directly entering vehicle's registration number and FASTag ID. These platforms will provide secure access to FASTag services

India will face higher secondary tariffs if Trump-Putin talks fail, warns Bessent

We will take all necessary steps to safeguard national interests: New Delhi

NEW YORK, PTI

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has warned that secondary tariffs on India could be raised if "things don't go well" during talks between President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin in Alaska on Friday.

Last week, Trump imposed tariffs totalling 50% on India, including 25% on Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, set to take effect from 27 August.

"I think everyone has been frustrated with President Putin. We expected that he would come to the table in a more fulsome way. It looks like he may be ready to negotiate. And we put secondary tariffs on the Indians for buying Russian oil. I could see, if things don't go well, then sanctions or secondary tariffs could go up," Bessent told Bloomberg on Wednesday.

Activists dressed as US President Donald Trump (left) and Russian President Vladimir Putin pose after ripping up a map of Ukraine in Berlin, Germany, on Thursday. AFP

When asked about China, the main buyer of Russian crude, Bessent said he was "not going to get ahead of the President, but the President is the best at creating leverage for himself, and he will make it clear to President Putin that all options are on the table."

On whether sanctions could be increased or loosened, Bessent said: "Sanctions can go up, they can be loosened. They can have a definitive life. They can go on indefinitely. You know, there's this Russian shadow fleet of ships around the world that I think we could crack down on." He added that even as Trump meets with Putin, the Europeans "need to join us" and be willing to "put on these secondary sanctions."

Bessent recalled that at the G7 meeting in Canada this year, when he asked leaders whether they were willing to impose a 200% secondary tariff on China, "everybody wanted to see what kind of shoes they were wearing."

Responding to the tariffs, the Ministry of External Affairs said the targeting of India was unjustified. "India will take all necessary measures to safeguard its national interests and economic security," it stated.

Trump says Putin summit could fail, promises Ukraine a say

ANCHORAGE, AFP: US President Donald Trump on Thursday acknowledged his high-stakes summit with Vladimir Putin may fail, and said any Ukraine deal would come through a future three-way meeting with Kyiv to "divvy things up."

Russian President Vladimir Putin flies to Alaska on Friday at the invitation of Trump in his first visit to a Western country since he ordered the 2022 invasion of Ukraine that has killed tens of thousands of people.

The Kremlin said that the two presidents planned to meet one-on-one, heightening fears by European leaders that Putin will cajole Trump into a settlement imposed on Ukraine.

Trump, on the eve of the summit, insisted that he would not finalize any deal with Putin and that he would include Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in any decisions.

"This meeting sets up the second meeting, but there is a 25 percent chance that this meeting will not be a successful meeting," Trump told Fox News Radio. "The second meeting is going to be very, very important, because that's going to be a meeting where they make a deal. And I don't want to use the word 'divvy' things up. But you know, to a certain extent, it's not a bad term," Trump said.

Zelenskyy has refused any territorial concessions to Russia, which has ramped up attacks and made sharp gains on the battlefield just ahead of the summit.

Putin praises Trump

Putin on Thursday praised US President Donald Trump's efforts to end the war in Ukraine. He said the Trump administration was making "quite energetic and sincere efforts to stop the hostilities". Putin also suggested that "long-term conditions of peace between our countries, and in Europe, and in the world as a whole," could be reached under an agreement with the US on nuclear arms control.

Pak announces creation of rocket force command

ISLAMABAD, PTI: Pakistan has announced the creation of a new force - the Army Rocket Force Command - equipped with modern technology and intended to serve as a "milestone" in strengthening its combat capabilities.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif made the announcement at an event late Wednesday night to mark the 79th Independence Day and commemorate the recent four-day military confrontation with India. "On this occasion, today, I announce the formation of the Army Rocket Force Command," Prime Minister Sharif said at the event attended by President Asif Ali Zardari, the three services chiefs, and national and foreign dignitaries.

"Equipped with modern technology and capable of targeting the enemy from every direction, this force will prove another milestone in further strengthening our conventional war capabilities," he said.

He, however, provided no further details about the new force or its responsibilities.

Pakistan's new force command is apparently inspired by China's PLA Rocket Force.

Israel announces new West Bank settlement

Expansion will bury two-state solution, say Palestinians

MAALE ADUMIM (WEST BANK), AP/PTI

Israel's far-right finance minister announced approval of contentious new settlement construction in the Israeli-occupied West Bank on Thursday, which Palestinians and rights groups worry will scuttle plans for a future Palestinian state by effectively cutting the West Bank into two separate parts.

The announcement comes as many countries, including Australia, Britain, France, and Canada said they would recognise a Palestinian state in September. "This reality finally buries the idea of a Palestinian state, because there is nothing to recognise and no one to recognise," said Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich during a ceremony on Thursday.

"Anyone in the world who tries today to recognize a Palestinian state — will receive an answer from us on the ground," he said. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not publicly comment on the plan on Thursday, but he has touted it in the past.

Development in E1, an open tract of land east of Jerusalem, has been under consideration for more than two decades, but was frozen due to US pressure during previous administrations. The E1 plan is expected to receive final approval on August 20.

The planning committee on August 6 rejected all of the petitions to stop the construction filed by rights groups and activists.

The approval is a "colonial, expansionist, and racist move," Ahmed al Deek, the political adviser to the minister of Palestinian Foreign Affairs, said on Thursday.

"It falls within the framework of the extremist Israeli government's plans to undermine any possibility of establishing a Palestinian state on the ground, to fragment the West Bank, and to separate its southern part from the center and the north," al Deek said.

India, China to work out new border peace measures

NEW DELHI, DHNS: With Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping set to meet soon, India and China are likely to work out next week a new set of Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) to maintain peace and tranquillity along the disputed boundary between the two nations.

New Delhi will also ask Beijing to speed up the withdrawal of nearly one lakh additional troops the Chinese People's Liberation Army had deployed in the rear areas along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) during the military stand-off in eastern Ladakh from April-May 2020 to October 2024.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval will host Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi for the 24th round of boundary negotiations in New Delhi on Monday. Doval and Wang will discuss a new set of measures for effective border management and for sustaining peace and tranquillity along the disputed India-China boundary.

They will also set the stage for the Modi-Xi meeting on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's summit at Tianjin in China from August 31 to September 1. The two leaders may formally announce the new CBMs to be discussed and finalised by the special representatives, according to the sources in New Delhi.

Doval and Wang had held the last round of talks in Beijing on December 18, 2024, a few weeks after Modi and Xi met at Russian city of Kazan.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

A woman carrying her son interacts with an animatronic dinosaur, Brachiosaurus, as they attend "Jurassic World: The Experience," in Bangkok on Wednesday. REUTERS

Irish health service, nurses' union condemn attacks on Indians

▶ Ireland's Health Service Executive (HSE) and the country's largest nurses' union have spoken out against the "racist abuse and assaults" targeting members of the Indian community, warning that their departure would have a "dramatic impact" on the healthcare sector, PTI reports from London.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the HSE said the effective operation of many essential health services in Ireland would be seriously threatened without the support of the thousands of international staff working in the country's hospitals and community services. According to the Irish public health service provider, healthcare professionals from India, Africa and other Asian countries make up 23 per cent of HSE nurses and midwives. "The HSE unequivocally condemns all incidents of racist abuse and assaults of people from abroad, their families and the wider community. It is unacceptable. People should not be afraid to leave their house or go to work for fear of abuse," said Anne Marie Hoey, Chief People Officer of the HSE. "We are proud of our organisation's diversity."

Melania threatens to sue Biden Jr

▶ US First Lady Melania Trump has demanded that Hunter Biden retract comments linking her to sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein and has threatened to sue him for $1 billion if he does not, AP/PTI reports from Washington.

Melania objects to two remarks Biden, son of former President Joe Biden, made in an interview. He alleged that Epstein introduced her to now-President Donald Trump. The statements are false, defamatory and "extremely salacious," Melania Trump's lawyer, Alejandro Brito, wrote in a letter to Hunter. "Epstein introduced Melania to Trump. The connections are, like, so wide and deep," Biden said in one of the disputed comments.

Renowned artist Anish Kapoor's work titled 'Butchered' is installed by Greenpeace on a Shell oil rig in the North Sea on Wednesday. REUTERS

Anish Kapoor's art up on gas rig

▶ Greenpeace activists have installed Anish Kapoor's protest artwork, Butchered, on a platform of a gas rig in the North Sea, which the award-winning British Indian artist said aims to "bring home the horrors" of fossil fuels to the planet, PTI reports from London.

The global environmental campaign group said its climbers had successfully mounted the major new work onto a Shell platform in the North Sea, marking what it described as the world's first artwork at an active offshore gas site. The blood-like solution, designed specifically for the installation, is a mixture of seawater, beetroot powder and non-toxic, food-based pond dye. "The carbon dioxide released by burning fossil fuels is invisible, but we are witnessing the devastation that its extraction wreaks on our world," said Kapoor.

Humanoid robot games begin in China

BEIJING, AP/PTI: Humanoid robots hip-hop danced, performed martial arts and played keyboard, guitar and drums at the opening ceremony of the first World Humanoid Robot Games in Beijing on Thursday evening.

The competition begins Friday with more than 500 humanoid robots in 280 teams from 16 countries, including the US, Germany and Japan, competing in sports including soccer, running and boxing. It comes as China has stepped up efforts to develop humanoid robots powered by artificial intelligence.

During the opening ceremony, the robots demonstrated soccer and boxing among other sports, with some cheering and backflipping as if at a real sports day. Teams from robot companies and Chinese universities are competing in the games.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Elec.),
East Zone, 16th Floor, PU Building, M.G. Road, BBMP, Bengaluru.

No: BBMP/EE/ELE/EAST/TEND/02/2025-26 Date: 14-08-2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Single Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

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Sl. No.	Name of the Work / Category
1	Providing New Poles, LED Fittings, Cable and Other Accessories to Parks coming under Hebbal Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 18.63, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 46,600/-**
2	Providing New Poles, LED Fittings, Cable and Other Accessories to Parks coming under Shanthinagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 19.07, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 47,700/-**
3	Releasing and Refixing of Street Lights Poles & Providing Street Lights, Cables and Other Accessories in East Zone Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 167) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 13.55, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 33,900/-**
4	Maintenance and Repair Works to Parks Lighting System by Providing Poles, Fixtures, UG Cable and Repairs to Control Panels under Sarvagna Nagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 16.94, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 42,400/-**
5	Maintenance and Repair Works to Parks Lighting System by Providing Poles, Fixtures, UG Cable and Repairs to Control Panels under C.V. Raman Nagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 12.70, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 31,800/-**
6	Maintenance and Repair Works to Parks Lighting System by Providing Poles, Fixtures, UG Cable and Repairs to Control Panels under Shanthinagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 12.70, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 31,800/-**
7	Maintenance and Repair Works to Parks Lighting System by Providing Poles, Fixtures, UG Cable and Repairs to Control Panels under Shivajinagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 8.46, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 21,200/-**
8	Providing New Poles, LED Fittings, Cable and Other Accessories to Parks coming under Sarvagna Nagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85) - (Others) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 18.50, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 46,300/-**
9	Providing New Poles, LED Fittings, Cable and Other Accessories to Parks coming under C.V. Raman Nagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115) - (Others)- Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 19.07, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 47,700/-**
10	Maintenance and Repair Works to Parks Lighting System by Providing Poles, Fixtures, UG Cable and Repairs to Control Panels under Hebbal Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68) - (CAT-IIA) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 18.61, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 23,300/-**
11	Emergency Electrical Repairs to Kallahalli Electrical Crematorium in Ward No. 108 Under POW 2025-26. **(CAT-IIA) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 4.23, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 5,400/-**
12	Repair and Maintenance Works to Underpass Lighting System by Providing Poles, Fixtures, Cable and Repairs to Control Panels coming under East Zone Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 167) - (ST) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 8.47, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 10,600/-**
13	Improvements to Street Lights by Providing Lights, Poles, Cable and Other Accessories in Hosur Road from Vellar Junction to Berlie Street in Ward No. 166 Under POW 2025-26. **(SC) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 35.61, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 35,700/-**
14	Maintenance and Repair Works to Parks Lighting System by Providing Poles, Fixtures, UG Cable and Repairs to Control Panels under Pulikeshinagara Constituency Under POW 2025-26. **(Ward No. 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75) - (SC) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 8.46, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 10,600/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 16-08-2025 by 16.30 Hours. 2)** Bids must be Submitted Online through the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **on or before 25-08-2025 upto 16.00 Hours. 3)** Date of Opening of Tenders: **26-08-2025 at 16.00 Hours.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (Elec.), East Zone, BBMP.

Chhattisgarh InfoTech Promotion Society(CHiPS)
2nd Floor SDC Building, Raipur, Chhattisgarh 492001
Phone : 0771-4014158 Fax : 0771-4066205
E-mail: ceochips@nic.in

TENDER NOTICE
System Tender No. RAIPUR, DATED /08/2025

Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society invites online proposal from eligible bidders for **Selection of an Agency for "Providing WhatsApp Business and Chatbot Solution to CHiPS, Govt. Of Chhattisgarh".** The Information cum Tender document can be downloaded from website http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in & http://chips.gov.in

The CEO, CHiPS reserve the full right to change the terms & conditions, select/reject any application without assigning any reason thereof.

S- 44917/3 **Sd/-**
CEO, DHiPS

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited by the Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Southern Railway, Salem-636005 for the following work:

Sl. No.	Description	Description
1.	Tender Notice Number and Date	**GEM/2025/B/6552122 Dt.11.08.2025**
2.	Name of work	(i) Cleaning and watering of coaches of Other End Attention Trains at Salem (ii) Provision of Toiletries in coaches of Other End Attention Trains and (iii) Watering of coaches of pass-through trains at Salem station for a period of four years **(Custom Bid for Services).**
3.	Estimate Value	**Rs. 9,34,84,914.54/-**
4.	Tender Closing Date and Time	**03-09-2025 at 10:00:00**
5.	Tender Opening Date and Time	**03-09-2025 at 10:30:00**
6.	Web Address	**http://www.gem.gov.in**

The Tender has been uploaded on the GeM portal **http://www.gem.gov.in** on **11.08.2025 as Custom Bid.**

The firms registered in GeM Portal are only eligible to participate in this tender. Complete details of the above tenders are given on the GeM portal **"www.gem.gov.in".** For Details of bid submission, please refer website portal **"www.gem.gov.in".**

For Details about scope of work, approximate value of tender, location and other documents, please refer website portal **"www.gem.gov.in".**

Divisional Environment Housekeeping Manager,
Southern Railway, Salem - 636 005

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that **Smt. T.K. Kusuma Chandra,** W/o Late Sri M.N. Chandregowda, aged about 77 years, Sri M.C. Naveen Kumar, S/o Late Sri M.N. Chandregowda, aged about 60 years, and Sri M.C. Dharma Prakash, S/o Late Sri M.N. Chandregowda, aged about 57 years, all residing at No.216/A, Varalakshmi Nivas, Ballary Main Road, Upper Palace Orchards, Sadashivanagara, Bangalore – 560080, being the absolute owners of the property more fully described below, are negotiating for sale of the said property with my client.

Any person or persons having any legitimate claim, right, title, interest, lien, or charge of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby called upon to put forward their claim, if any, in writing along with supporting documents, **within 15 (Fifteen) days** from the date of this notice, to the undersigned at the address below. If no such claim or objection is received within the said period, it shall be presumed that there are no claims or objections and the transaction will proceed accordingly.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential 1/3rd portion forming part of Site No.216, situated at Upper Palace Orchid, Ballary Road, Sadashivanagara, Bangalore-560080, measuring 121 feet East to West and 80 feet North to South, carved out as per the Partition Deed dated 28.07.1971 and comprising ground, first and second floors together measuring 3,226.5 sq. ft. of built-up area as per Khatha, and bounded on: **East by:** Ballary Road, **West by:** Property allotted to M.N. Lakshmana Gowda and M.N. Raghavendra as per partition dated 28.07.1971, **North by:** Passage and thereafter Site No.217 belonging to Srinivasalu, **South by:** Property bearing Site No.215 belonging to K. Hanumanthaiah

The property includes residential building portions forming ground, first, and second floors, more fully described in the registered partition deeds and Khatha records indivisibly entered by the BBMP.

SRI. MANJUNATH M. HEGDE, Advocate
No.888, 3rd Cross, 5th Main, M.C. Layout,
Vijayanagara, Bangalore-560040.
Email: hegdeylp@gmail.com
Mob: 9845770270

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public is hereby informed that our client, **Mr. Satarasi Mallikarjuna Choudary,** had instituted A.A. No. 6/2025 before the Hon'ble XXVII Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge: CCH 9, at Bangalore against **Mr. Aravind T.M. and Mr. Shricharan** (the **"Respondents"**). By his Order dated 28th March 2025 (29.03.2025), the Hon'ble XXVII Additional City Civil Judge was pleased to restrain the Respondents, their agents, employees, workmen, assignee, heirs, successors or anyone claiming through or under them from alienating, encumbering, or creating any third-party rights claims or interest over the Schedule Property till the dispute is adjudicated by the Arbitral Tribunal. Any person(s) engaging with the Respondents for any transaction pertaining to the Schedule Property shall be doing so at their own risk and the same would in no manner bind our client, and such persons shall also be liable to face the legal consequences thereof.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of vacant agricultural land bearing Sy. No,62, **measuring 31 Acres 27 guntas and 17 guntas of kharab, situated at Madappanahalli Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk (earlier Bangalore North Taluk), Bangalore,** and bounded as follows: **East by:** Village Boundary of Singanayakanahalli Land; **West by:** Land in Sy.No.63; **North by:** Land in Sy No.60, 61, 59 and 58; **South by:** Village Boundary of Krishnarajapura

HOLLA & HOLLA
ADVOCATES
Level 4, Prestige Nebula, No. 8,
Cubbon Road, Bangalore-560 001.
Place: Bangalore Date: 15.08.2025

S&P Global upgrades India's credit ratings after 18 years

This, amid Trump's tariff threats, 'dead economy' jab

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Credit ratings agency S&P Global on Thursday upgraded India's long-term sovereign credit ratings to 'BBB' from 'BBB-' with a stable outlook citing economic resilience, low inflation and sustained fiscal consolidation.

It has also upgraded India's short-term rating to 'A-2' from 'A-3'. India's ratings upgrade by S&P Global comes after a gap of 18 years. The last upgrade was in 2007 when it was also upgraded to 'BBB'.

"The upgrade of India reflects its buoyant economic growth, against the backdrop of an enhanced monetary policy environment that anchors inflationary expectations," S&P Global said in a statement.

Welcoming the S&P Global's decision, the Union Finance Ministry said ratings upgrade reaffirms that "India's economy is truly agile, active, and resilient."

"India has prioritised fiscal consolidation, while maintaining its strong infrastructure *creation* drive and inclusive growth approach, that has led to the upgrade. India will continue its buoyant growth momentum and undertake steps for further reforms to attain the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047," the ministry said in a post on X.

S&P's is the second sovereign rating revision this year. DBRS had recently upgraded India to BBB status.

The rating upgrade comes at a time when India is facing the threat of imposition of a 50% tariff by the US, which is estimated to hit exports and overall economic growth. US President Donald Trump's recent "dead economy" remarks also ignited debate on the health of the Indian economy.

Explaining the rationale behind the ratings upgrade, New York-headquartered rating agency noted that India remains among the best performing economies in the world.

"It staged a remarkable comeback from the pandemic with real GDP growth over fiscal 2022 (year-end March 31) to fiscal 2024 averaging 8.8%, the highest in Asia-Pacific. We expect these growth dynamics to continue in the medium term, with GDP increasing 6.8% annually over the next three years. This has a moderating effect on the ratio of government debt to GDP despite still-wide fiscal deficits," S&P Global said.

On impact of the US tariff, the rating agency said, "We believe the effect of U.S. tariffs on the Indian economy will be manageable. India is relatively less reliant on trade and about 60% of its economic growth stems from domestic consumption. We expect that in the event India has to switch from importing Russian crude oil, the fiscal cost, if fully borne by the government, will be modest given the narrow price differential between Russian crude and current international benchmarks."

It has pegged India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for the current fiscal at 6.5%, which is in line with the official estimates. Over the next three years India's economic growth is estimated to average 6.8% annually.

"Though the US is India's largest trading partner, we do not expect the 50% tariffs (if imposed) to pose a material drag on growth," S&P Global said.

WPI inflation negative for second month in a row

Wholesale prices align with the easing in retail inflation

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The annual wholesale prices recorded deflation for the second consecutive month in July on the back of decline in food and fuel prices, official data showed on Thursday.

Factory gate inflation based as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) hit a two-year low of -0.58% in July from -0.13% recorded in the previous month.

The wholesale food inflation was at a decadal low. It posted a deflation of 2.15% during the month under review. Fuel and power became cheaper by 2.43% year-on-year in July. However, inflation in manufactured items increased to 2.05% in July from 1.97% in June, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry data showed.

In July there was a sharp drop in prices of vegetables, fruits, pulses and spices on a year-on-year basis. Vegetable prices in the wholesale market dipped by 29% year-on-year in July, the sharpest fall since December 2022. Pulses became cheaper by 15.1%; spices by 15.6% and fruits by 2.7% on a year-on-year basis. Cereals inflation fell to 1.4%, the lowest in 46 months.

The decline in wholesale price inflation is in line with the easing in the retail prices. The headline retail inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) fell to an eight-year low of 1.55% in July, as per the National Statistics Office data released earlier this week.

"While low food prices help in providing succour to the consumption demand, however, a sustained decline in food prices acts as a downside risk of lowering the incomes of households which are dependent on the farming activity," said Paras Jasrai, Associate Director at India Ratings and Research.

Cognizant to roll out wage hikes for 80% employees from Nov 1

BENGALURU, DHNS

Nasdaq-listed IT services firm Cognizant has rolled out salary hikes for 80% of its eligible employees, effective November 1, 2025.

In a statement, Cognizant said that this aligns with its announcement during its second-quarter earnings that it plans to award merit-based salary increases for the vast majority of employees during the second half of 2025.

"These increases will be delivered up to, and including, the Senior Associate levels. The amount of these increases will vary depending on individual performance rating and country. In India, pay increases for our consistent highest performers will be in the high single digits. Top performers will receive the highest increases. Earlier this year, Cognizant paid most of its associates their highest bonuses in three years," a Cognizant spokesperson said.

Earlier, during the company's earnings conference call, Jatin Dalal, Chief Financial Officer, had said that they have not yet decided on a salary increase. "Our endeavour is to cover a vast majority of our employees during the second half of this year as and when we decide," he added.

For the quarter ended June 2025, Cognizant posted a 14% year on year (YoY) increase in its net income to $645 million compared to $566 million it reported a year ago. Cognizant's revenue in the June quarter was up 8.1% YoY at $5.25 billion. As of March 31, 2025, Cognizant employed about 343,800 employees.

Last week, Tata Consultancy Services announced wage hikes to around 80% of its employees, effective September 1, 2025.

These wage hike announcements come at a time when the IT industry is facing macroeconomic headwinds and uncertainty due to the impact of tariffs.

The second-largest IT services firm, Infosys, had rolled out wage hikes in two parts.

After tariff woes, AP to promote domestic consumption of shrimps

HYDERABAD, DHNS: Facing mounting pressure from US tariffs, shrimp farmers in Andhra Pradesh and the state government are shifting their focus towards the domestic market. To boost domestic shrimp consumption, the Andhra Pradesh government has proposed establishing the Andhra Pradesh Prawn Producers Coordination Committee (APPPCC), modeled after the successful National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC). The APPPCC will be incorporated under the Companies Act and include all stakeholders and shrimp farmers as members. This decision was made during Wednesday's executive committee meeting of the Andhra Pradesh State Aquaculture Development Authority.

Coffee Day posts Rs 28 cr Q1 profit

BENGALURU, DHNS: Coffee Day Enterprises on Thursday posted consolidated net profit of Rs 28.18 crore for the quarter ended June 2025 compared to a net loss of Rs 11.45 crore in the year-ago period. Its revenue from operations in the first quarter stood at Rs 269.32 crore, a 3.5% year-on-year (YoY) growth compared to Rs 260.07 crore in the same quarter last year. The company has outstanding borrowings amounting to about Rs 412.3 crore as of June 30, 2025. "There have been certain covenant breaches with respect to borrowings taken by the company," its filings said. The company has entered into a settlement with Credit Opportunities India Pte Ltd and India Special Situations Scheme.

United Spirits Q1 profit drops 14%

BENGALURU, DHNS: Liquor maker United Spirits has reported a 14% decline in its consolidated net profit for the June quarter to Rs 417 crore. The company had posted Rs 485 crore in the year-ago period. Its revenue from operations in the first quarter stood at Rs 6,295 crore, a 0.9% increase compared to Rs 6,238 crore in the same quarter last year.

Its subsidiary Royal Challengers Sports Private Limited (RCSPL), which owns the RCB team for IPL and WPL, posted a 16% growth in revenue at Rs 478 crore compared to Rs 413 crore in the year-ago period.

Trade deficit widens to 8-month high of $27.35 billion in July

NEW DELHI, PTI: Snapping the two-month declining streak, India's exports rebounded by 7.29% to $37.24 billion in July, while trade deficit widened to an eight-month high of $27.35 billion during the month.

Official data released on Thursday also showed that imports increased by 8.6% year-on-year to $64.59 billion in July 2025 due to increased inbound shipments of crude oil and gold.

Trade deficit widened to $27.35 billion in July, the highest since November last year when the trade gap was $31.77 billion.

During April-July 2025-26, exports increased by 3.07% to $149.2 billion, while imports rose 5.36% to $244.01 billion.

The trade deficit during the first four months of 2025-26 was $94.81 billion.

Briefing media on the data, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said that despite global economic uncertainties, India's goods and services exports are doing well. Exports have grown substantially, much higher than the global exports growth, he said.

He also said that the export promotion mission will also be announced "very soon".

The main sectors that pushed the growth in July included engineering (13.75%), electronics (34%), gems and jewellery (29%), pharma (14%) and chemicals (7.19%).

SPORT

LEFT: Vidyashilp Academy, winners of the inter-school U-17 hockey tournament for the Centenary Shield. Their juniors also emerged champions by winning the U-14 tournament for the Fr Eric Vaz Memorial Trophy.

Vidyashilp bag a grand double

ADITYA K HALDER
BENGALURU, DHNS

Vidyashilp Academy had a memorable outing at the prestigious SJBHS inter-school hockey tournament as the school bagged both the U-17 and U-14 titles at the Hockey Stadium here on Thursday.

After winning the U-14 Fr Eric Vaz Memorial final against hosts St Joseph's Boys' High School 1-0, the Vidyashilp U-17 side rallied from 0-2 down to win 3-2 against Chinmaya Vidyalaya in an enthralling final of the Centenary Shield.

In a tale of two halves, Sohan Kadli (40') completed the comeback from a well-executed dragflick. It took them just 12 minutes to score three goals, all from penalty corners, in the second half.

Praniith Gadia (28') opened the floodgates with a powerful tomahawk from the second battery as four consecutive PCs took their toll on Chinmaya's defence, which looked too efficient until this point.

Vidyashilp's attack turned relentless following the first goal and converted their next PC through Aarav Ashoke from the second battery at the 35th minute. What stood out in all three goals was the injection provided capably by Samarth.

LOCAL HOCKEY

The first half, however, was all Chinmaya show, highlighted by Hemanth's sole field goal of the day.

The youngster executed a tomahawk to perfection following a circle entry from the right at the 17th minute. The momentum of Chinmaya's game was built through MD Ghouse's dragflick at the third minute as Vidyashilp had early jitters.

Meanwhile, in the U-14 final earlier, Arrush Malik scored the sole goal at the 11th minute as his dragflick was deflected into the goal by a St Joseph's rusher.

Results: Final: Fr Eric Vaz Memorial Tournament (U-14): Final: Vidyashilp Academy: 1 (Arrush Malik, 11th) bt St Joseph's Boys High School: 0
Player of the tournament: Manish (Frank Anthony Public School); **Best forward:** Adrian Nitin Manuel (St. Joseph's Boys High School); **Best midfielder:** Mohammed K (Chinmaya Vidyalaya; **Best defender:** Siddarth BS (Vidyashilp Academy); **Best goalkeeper:** Khalifa Mohammed (Vidyashilp Academy)
Centenary Shield Tournament (U-17): Vidyashilp Academy: 3 (Praniith Gadia, 28th; Aarav Ashoke, 35th; Sohan Kadli, 40th) bt Chinmaya Vidyalaya (MD Ghouse, 3rd; Hemanth, 17th)
Player of the tournament: Hemanth (Chinmaya Vidyalaya); **Best forward:** Joel Paul (St. Joseph's Boys High School); **Best midfielder:** Adhavan (St. Joseph's Boys High School); **Best defender:** Pranith Gadia (Vidyashilp Academy); **Best goalkeeper:** Amogh R (Chinmaya Vidyalaya)

Prasad, Vinay join hands to contest KSCA polls

MADHU JAWALI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Former India pacer Venkatesh Prasad has decided to contest the upcoming Karnataka State Cricket Association elections along with former treasurer of the association Vinay Mruthyunjaya.

While the full team isn't yet ready, it's reliably learnt that Prasad and Vinay would lead the group, with the backing of a few state's cricket stalwarts, in the polls likely to be held between end of September and November.

The incumbent administration that came into power with the blessings of Brijesh Patel in 2022, will complete its three-year term in the second week of November.

Prasad, who has previously served as the vice-president during Anil Kumble and Javagal Srinath regime, and Vinay will soon hold a media meet to announce their candidature along with other members of the team and outline their agenda for the association that has been mired in controversy for the last two months.

The tragic incidents of June 4 when 11 Royal Challengers Bengaluru fans lost their lives in a stampede outside the M Chinnaswamy stadium has put KSCA in the dock with the State government sparing no effort to apportion the culpability on association officials.

Following the death of scores of cricket fans and injuries to several more, KSCA secretary Shankar A and treasurer ES Jairam were forced to resign while the inquiry is on against other officials, including president Raghuram Bhat.

The association has been functioning without an elected secretary and treasurer for close to two months now.

Venkatesh Prasad.
DH FILE PHOTO

Sinner, Sabalenka into quarterfinals

CINCINNATI, AFP: Defending champions Jannik Sinner and Aryna Sabalenka led the way into the Cincinnati Open quarterfinals on Wednesday with Carlos Alcaraz hot on their heels with a straight-sets victory of his own.

Sinner shrugged off a mid-match weather delay lasting nearly three hours as he advanced 6-4, 7-6 (7/4) over Adrian Mannarino.

Sabalenka, taken to three sets in her previous match with Emma Raducanu, regrouped after surrendering a second-set service break to defeat Spain's Jessica Bouzas Maneiro 6-1, 7-5.

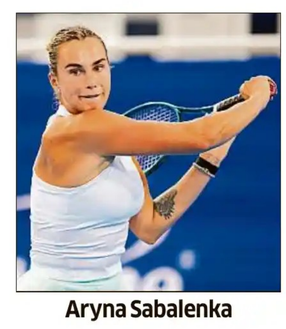
Alcaraz, the second seed who has reached the finals of his last six tournaments, hammered Italian lucky loser Luca Nardi 6-1, 6-4.

French qualifier Terence Atmane sprung the surprise of the day, shocking fourth seed Taylor Fritz 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 to win the biggest match of his career.

Sabalenka will face former Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina, who beat Australian Open champion Madison Keys 6-7 (3/7), 6-4, 6-2.

Third-seeded Alexander Zverev had to take to the court twice on Wednesday to reach the quarters -- although both outings were relatively short-lived.

The German started his day by polishing off a 6-4, 6-4 third-round victory over Brandon Nakashima in a match continued from Tuesday.



Aryna Sabalenka

Gukesh downs leader Caruana to occupy fourth spot

ST LOUIS (USA), PTI: World champion D Gukesh overcame a loss against Leinier Dominguez Perez of the United States to beat the American duo of Wesley So and Fabiano Caruana to stand at fourth spot at the end of the rapid section of the St. Louis Rapid and Blitz, a part of the Grand Chess Tour, here.

It was the third successive day that Gukesh started with a loss and still managed a fourth spot, which seems good, with 18 blitz games still to come in the USD 1,75,000 prize-money tournament.

D Gukesh

Caruana emerged on top in the rapid round with 14 points despite his loss against Gukesh. The American is followed by Armenian-turned-American Levon Aronian, who has 13 points. Maxime Vachier-Lagrave of France is third on 11 points, a point ahead of Gukesh, who has had a mixed tournament so far.

Dominguez, Wesley and Uzbekistan's Nodirbek Abdusattorov share the fifth spot with nine points, two ahead of Liem Le Quang of Vietnam.

American Sam Shankland, on five points, is ninth in the field while Grigoriy Oparin has just three points and is placed last.

Results (round 7): D Gukesh (Ind) lt to Leinier Dominguez Perez (USA); Levon Aronian (USA) bt Sam Shankland (USA); Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb) drew with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra); Grigoriy Oparin (USA) lt to Fabiano Caruana (USA); Liem Le Quang (Vie) drew with Wesley So (USA).
Round 8: Wesley lt to Gukesh; Caruana bt Liem; Dominguez drew with Vachier-Lagrave; Shankland drew with Abdusattorov; Oparin lt to Wesley.
Round 9: Gukesh bt Caruana; Liem drew with Aronian; Abdusattorov bt Dominguez; Oparin lt to Shankland; Wesley bt Oparin.
Standings (after Round 9 Rapid): 1. Caruana (14); 2. Aronian (13), 3. Vachier-Lagrave (11); 4. Gukesh (10); 5-7: Dominguez, Abdusattorov, Wesley (9 each); 8: Liem (7); 9. Shankland (5); 10. Oparin (3).

Keymer seals title in Chennai

CHENNAI, PTI: Vincent Keymer completed a landmark triumph, becoming the first sole champion at the Quantbox Chennai Grand Masters 2025 meet with a round to spare. The 20-year-old German, playing white, drew his match against Dutchman Jordan van Foreest, while results elsewhere confirmed his tournament victory.

Keymer's dominance over a star-studded field also catapulted him into the world's top 10 on the live rating list, underlining his arrival among the game's elite.

Vincent Keymer

"Entering the top 10 in live rating is a milestone I have wanted to reach for a long time, and I am very glad that the hard work finally paid off," Keymer said.

"Winning the tournament and breaking into the top 10 at the same time is fantastic for me and truly special. However, the tournament will continue tomorrow. That is why I prefer to remain focused and keep the tension for the last round."

Elsewhere in the Masters, all five games ended in draws, a rare full split that keeps the race for second and third wide open. Arjun Erigaisi and Karthikeyan Murali–playing each other on day 9–remain in contention

Yashwant dazzles for CC XI

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karthik SU's excellent 163 was overshadowed by BN Yashwant's sensational 194 as Combined City XI took the first innings lead and three points in their drawn fixture over Mysore Zone in the SA Srinivasan Memorial under-23 tournament here.

LOCAL CRICKET

Mysore Zone, riding on Karthik's brilliance and Ishaan S' 64, mustered 352 for the loss of nine wickets in 73.1 overs. Mankalesh RJ returned with 3/49 for CC XI.

In Combined City XI's reply, Yashwant, Ashwin Santosh (57), Karan U (50 not out) and Samit Dravid (74) all contributed as they finished their innings with 403/5 in 79.4 overs.

Brief scores: Alur (3): Mysore Zone: 352/9 in 73.1 overs (Karthik SU 163, Rohan BC 26, Dhanush Gowda S 46, Ishaan S 64; Mankalesh RJ 3-49, Keshav Manjunath 2-67) drew with Combined City XI: 403/5 in 79.4 overs (BN Yashwant 194, Ashwin Santosh 57, Karan U 50 n.o., Samit Dravid 74; Ishaan S 2-71, Dhanush Gowda S 2-59). **Combined City XI: 3 points & Mysore Zone: 1 point.**
Alur (1): Mangalore Zone: 275 all out in 74.5 overs (Rohan RR 67, Rushi B Shetty 89, Hrishith Shetty 27; Rahul Bellad 3-64, Rohan N 6-39) drew with Raichur Zone: 331/9 in 85 overs (Thippa Reddy 101, Niranjan 113, Harsha Wardhan Khuba 50; Adithya A Kotian 4-48). **Raichur Zone: 3 & Mangalore Zone: 1.**
Green Sports Village: Bangalore Zone: 351 all out in 85 overs (S Chaitanya 93, Vishal Onat 40, Krishiv Bajaj 55, Rajvir Wadhwa 73, Malatesh M 36; Yash Raj Punja 4-64, Lokesh Ramu 5-67) & 67/3 in 16 overs (Aarush Mehrotra 32 n.o.) drew with Bangalore City XI: 231 all out in 61.2 overs (Swaroop SH 144 n.o.; Rajvir Wadhwa 3-40, Sri Surya Bondu 3-41, Malatesh M 2-50). **Bangalore Zone: 3 & Bangalore City XI: 1.**
Kini Sports Arena: Tumkur Zone: 232 all out in 55.1 overs (Toufeeq S 28, Vibhushan N 52, Shubham Kumar 27, Ambresh K 37, T Chiranjeevi 46; Mithesh 3-50, Digantha K Umesh 2-40, Santhosh S 3-56) & 205/3 in 27 overs (Adarsh MA 27, Toufeeq S 100 n.o., Vibhushan N 68; Santhosh S 2-69) drew with Shivamogga Zone: 316 all out in 82.2 overs (Mohan Partha J 39, Shreyank Sagar 201; Manoj NS 3-55, Rahul B 2-44, Ambresh K 2-72, Vinay NT 3-75). **Shivamogga Zone: 3 & Tumkur Zone: 1.**

FOOTBALL PREMIER LEAGUE

New thrills & chills on the cards

Liverpool eye back-to-back titles; Arsenal hope to crack the puzzle; City seek revenge

MANCHESTER, AP

The Premier League is back after one of the most unpredictable seasons in recent memory saw Liverpool win a record-equaling 20th title, Manchester City go into meltdown and Manchester United hit new lows.

The new campaign kicks off on Friday and teams have spent big in an attempt to capitalise on what looks like being a wide open title race after City's dominance was ended.

Defending champion Liverpool haven't stood still, with Florian Wirtz the pick of its signings for a fee that could rise to a British record $156 million.

Pep Guardiola's rebuild at City began in January with around $450 million spent since then on revamping a team that saw their four-year title-winning run snapped last term.

And perennial runner-up Arsenal have finally secured a top-class striker in Viktor Gyokeres as they look to win their first title since 2004.

Chelsea has continued their heavy-spending policy under American owners Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital and, fresh from being crowned world club champion, will expect to challenge for the biggest prizes again.

Liverpool know just how difficult it is to win back-to-back championships.

Not since 1984 has the club successfully defended the title and they are not alone in struggling to hold onto the trophy. Only Guardiola's City — champion in six out of seven seasons between 2018 and 2024—have managed to retain the title since Alex Ferguson's Man United retained their title in 2009.

But Liverpool coach Arne Slot already defied the odds by joining an elite group of coaches to win the title in their first year in the Premier League, following Jose Mourinho, Carlo Ancelotti, Manuel Pellegrini and Antonio Conte. He has brought in high-quality additions, with Wirtz and Hugo Ekitike adding more firepower to Liverpool's attack.

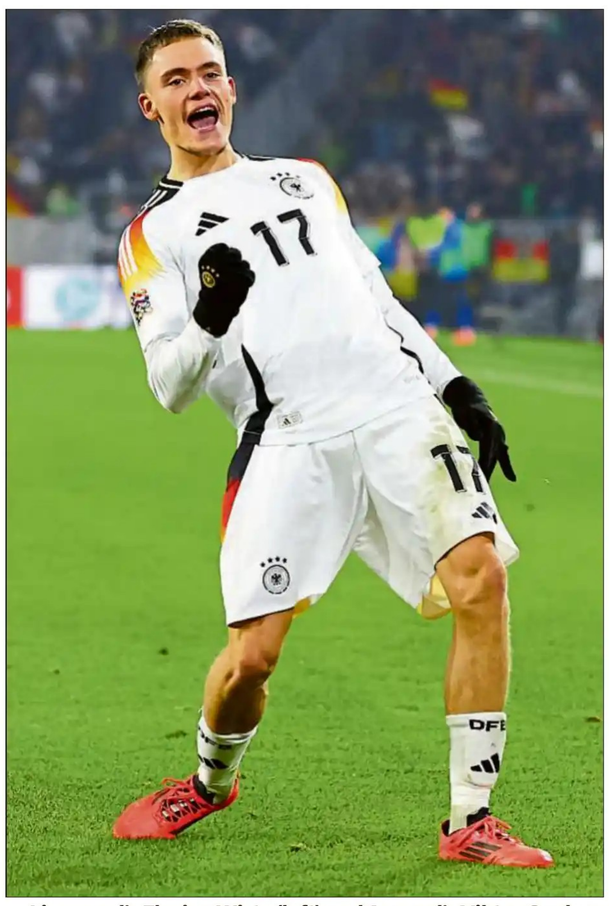
City, on the other hand, endured a sudden and dramatic decline last season when their title defense unraveled before Christmas.

Defeat in the FA Cup final against Crystal Palace consigned City to their first trophyless season in eight years.

There were mitigating factors — mainly the injury to Ballon d'Or winner Rodri. But Guardiola's extensive rebuild, including the signings of Omar Marmoush and Rayan Cherki, suggest City's problems were more deeply rooted.

The last time Guardiola relinquished a title, he went on to win the next four. City's Premier League rivals have been warned. Meanwhile, no team have been more consistent than Arsenal over the past three seasons — but that still hasn't delivered a title.

The signing of Gyokeres could be the last piece of the puzzle. The Sweden striker outscored Kylian Mbappe, Haaland and Mohamed Salah last term. His overall record for Sporting Lisbon was 97 goals in 102 games. Arsenal will hope he can reproduce that form in England.



Liverpool's Florian Wirtz (left) and Arsenal's Viktor Gyokeres are some of the major signings made by the Premier League clubs this season. REUTERS

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS, JIOSTAR

United recorded its lowest finish in the Premier League era (15th) last season, the most losses (18) and their lowest points total (42). Add to that the failure to qualify for any European competition and it was a year to forget. Coach Ruben Amorim has vowed to bring the good times back. He's signed Premier League-proven forwards in Matheus Cunha and Bryan Mbeumo, along with highly rated Slovenia striker Benjamin Sesko. He's also had a full offseason to work with his squad -- something he was denied when hired midway through last season.

After winning two Portuguese titles at Sporting Lisbon, United is convinced he is the man to end more than a decade of decline since former manager Alex Ferguson retired in 2013.

The revolving door of coaches has slowed down. The mega spending has not. And on the back of a season when Chelsea won the UEFA Conference League, qualified for the Champions League and won the newly expanded Club World Cup it looks like the two-time European champion is back among football's elite.

Week 1 fixtures: On Friday: Liverpool vs Bournemouth (12:30 am on Saturday).
On Saturday: Aston Villa vs Newcastle United (5:00 pm); Brighton and Hove Albion vs Fulham, Sunderland vs West Ham United, Tottenham Hotspur vs Burnley (all 7:30 pm); Wolverhampton Wanderers vs Manchester City (10:00 pm).
On Sunday: Chelsea vs Crystal Palace; Nottingham Forest vs Brentford (both 6:30 pm); Manchester United vs Arsenal (9:00 pm).
On Monday: Leeds United vs Everton (12:30 am on Tuesday).

Yuvraj Sandhu

Sandhu extends lead by three shots

MYSURU, DHNS: Yuvraj Sandhu continued to dominate the proceedings on day three with a solid eight-under 62 highlighted by two eagles to extend his lead to three shots at the Mysuru Open on Thursday.

A confident-looking Yuvraj, the leader from round one onwards, moved his total to an imposing 22-under 188. Chandigarh-based Yuvraj (61-65-62), the current PGTI Order of Merit leader, is now staring at his third PGTI title of the season.

Jamal Hossain (62-65-64) of Bangladesh posted a 64 despite missing some crucial putts to continue in second place for the third straight day as his total read 19-under 191.

Delhi golfer Arjun Prasad also carded a 64 to move into sole third place at a total of 18-under 192 on another overcast day. Chandigarh's Karandeep Kochhar matched Yuvraj's first round lowest score of 61 to jump 11 spots to tied fourth place at 17-under 193. Kochhar's round featured an eagle and seven birdies.

Italy's Michele Ortolani (63), who fired two eagles on Thursday, also closed the day in joint fourth position.

P Prabhu and Dhruv Bopanna, the two Mysuru-based professionals who made the cut, were placed tied 47th at six-under 204.

Leading scores (after 54 holes): 188: Yuvraj Sandhu (61, 65, 62); **191:** Jamal Hossain (62, 65, 64).

IN BRIEF

India women end training camp

▸ The Indian women's team completed a 10-day preparatory camp at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru ahead of the ODI World Cup at home with focus on strength and conditioning besides match simulations, reports DHNS.

India, who have never won a world title, will be expected to end their ICC trophy drought in the 50-over showpiece beginning September 30.

Pranathi wins Wushu gold

▸ Mysuru's Pranathi G clinched gold in the girls' sub-junior 34 kg category at the Batumi Open International Wushu tournament in Batumi, Georgia held from August 1-6, reports DHNS from Bengaluru.

The fifth grade student of Police Public School defeated Georgia's Ani Todua with a 2-0 scoreline in the final.

McIlroy rejects captaincy

▸ Masters champion Rory McIlroy said Wednesday he rejected the suggestion he could serve as playing captain at a Ryder Cup "sometime soon," saying he thinks combining roles is too onerous, reports AFP from Washington.

◆ ON TV ◆

FOOTBALL

EPL: Liverpool vs Bournemouth (12:30 am, Saturday). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

La Liga: Girona vs Rayo Vallecano (10:30 pm). **LIVE** on **FanCode**

TENNIS

Cincinnati Open: Quarterfinal (12:30 am, Friday). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

CRICKET

Maharaja Trophy: Shivamogga Lions vs Bengaluru Blasters (3:15 pm), Hubli Tigers vs Mangalore Dragons (7:15 pm). **LIVE** on **FanCode.**

Paris Saint-Germain celebrate as skipper Marquinhos lifts the trophy after winning the UEFA Super Cup against Tottenham Hotspur. REUTERS

PSG juggernaut rolls on after late salvo

UDINE, AFP

European champions Paris Saint-Germain began the new season by lifting more silverware on Wednesday as they beat Tottenham Hotspur 4-3 on penalties in the UEFA Super Cup after producing a late comeback to draw the match 2-2.

Spurs looked set to get their hands on the trophy in their first competitive match under new coach Thomas Frank as they led 2-0 just after half-time at the Stadio Friuli in Udine, Italy.

Micky van de Ven gave last season's Europa League winners the lead on 39 minutes and Cristian Romero got their second goal three minutes into the second half.

However, PSG were rescued by two substitutes as Lee Kang-in pulled a goal back in the 85th minute and Goncalo Ramos headed in the equaliser four minutes into injury time.

That meant a penalty shootout, although it started badly for PSG when Vitinha put their first kick wide.

New Paris goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier then saved from Van de Ven and Mathys Tel missed the target, allowing Nuno Mendes to convert the winning penalty for PSG.

Dominic Solanke, Rodrigo Bentancur and Pedro Porro all scored from the spot for Spurs, in vain. Ramos, Ousmane Dembele and Lee converted for PSG before Mendes stepped up.

It is the first time PSG, or indeed any French club, have lifted the Super Cup, as they take their tally of trophies won in 2025 to five.

"I am proud. We have hadn't much preparation but you could see that football is not only about the physical aspect -- it is also about the mental aspect, being in the right place, having the right tactics," PSG captain Marquinhos told broadcaster Canal Plus. "They sat back a lot after going 2-0 up and it is dangerous to invite PSG to come at you like that."

Karnataka's Aida annexes IGU title

BENGALURU, DHNS: Young Karnataka golfer Aida Thimmaiah carded a solid final round of six-under 64 to run away with a six-shot victory in the 'C' category of the IGU Northern India Ladies & Junior Girls' Championship in Noida on Thursday.

Aida Thimmaiah

The 11-year-old from Kodagu got off to a great start by scoring five consecutive birdies between the third and the seventh hole. Following a bogey on the eighth, she made three more birdies and a bogey on the back nine for 64 that came after a one-over 71 for a two-day total of five-under 135 at the par-70 Jaypee Greens.

Coached by Rahul Ganapathy at the Karnataka Golf Association, Aida's latest win comes after she recently finished third in the girls' under-11 section of the US Kids Golf World Championship at the Pinehurst Resort, USA.

Rajasthan's Ojaswini Saraswat claimed the runner-up title with scores of 71-70 for a total of 141.

Standings (after 36 holes): Combined ladies, A & B: 134: Rashi Mishra (67, 67); **137:** Ayesha Gupta (68, 69). **Category C: 135:** Aida Thimmaiah (71, 64); **141:** Ojaswini Saraswat (71, 70).

VECE PAES (1945-2025)

'Saint' of Indian hockey wore multiple hats

1972 Olympic bronze medallist was much loved administrator and manager

ADITYA K HALDER
BENGALURU, DHNS

Karnataka hockey went into a state of mourning on Thursday morning when the tragic news was received during the finals of the SJBHS Inter-school hockey tournament for the Centenary Shield and the Fr Eric Vaz Memorial.

A minute's silence was observed twice during the event while several of the unaware budding hockey players learned of the sad demise of St Joseph's laurel, Vece Paes, who passed away at the age of 80. In that pin-drop silence, one could only feel goosebumps if one turned back the pages on the glittering history of the 'saint' of Indian hockey.

A true legend of Indian sport, Vece, born in Goa in April 1945, was the bronze medallist at the 1971 World Cup and the 1972 Olympics. Interestingly, the midfielder was studying for his MBBS while he won the two major accolades. Post his hockey career, Paes became a sports medicine doctor, which was only a means to keep him close to the field.

A devoted lover of sports, he continued to serve Indian sports in various roles and different sports including cricket, tennis, football and rugby. This also notably included heading the sports science department of the BCCI in Mumbai until his retirement in 2018. Also, he served as the president of the Indian rugby union for six years (1996-2002).

His contribution to Indian hockey remains unmatched as former Indian captain and 1964 Olympics gold medallist Gurbux Singh Kohli (89) fondly recalled how it was difficult to keep him away from the hockey turf even when he was struggling with Parkinson's.

"Until six months ago, he would always insist on going to the Hockey Bengal Ground (right in the heart of Kolkata at Maidan)," Gurbux told *DH* from Gurugram. "Hockey was his one true love, he would find peace in watching the young players in action during the local league matches and discuss the game in depth with me."

Not to forget, he was the proud father of Indian tennis legend Leander Paes, who took up tennis only because his Vece would see that talent in his son, as per Gurbux. "I can fondly remember a 7 or 8-year-old Leander, who was not just a brilliant hockey player training at Mohun Bagan ground but also a great goalkeeper in football. His father, however, felt he should move to an individual game like tennis and pushed him towards taking up the game," said Gurbux. Rest, of course, is history.

The father-son duo also have a unique distinction of winning Olympic medals with Leander winning an individual bronze at the Atlanta Games in 1996.

Misplacing Munich medal

"Saint of a person, a true gentleman!" was the first thought that comes to the mind of 1972 Olympics medallist Ashok Kumar Singh (75), who was lost in his thought for a moment when he recalled his first meeting with Vece.

"We first met during the pre-Olympics camp for Munich, and I remember he was such a soft-spoken gentleman throughout," said Ashok. "A scholar of a person, he was already studying MBBS when we met him at the camp."

Ashok grew further fond of the midfielder, who took him under his wings when Dhyan Chand's son moved to Kolkata to play in the professional league for Mohun Bagan.

"Kolkata's league was big those days, and moving to Mohun Bagan was important. However, moving to a new city never felt difficult as Vece always had my back on and off the field," said Ashok, who remains in awe of Vece's ability to create wrong-footed passes from the midfield.

That's why Ashok felt obliged to help his former team-mate, who reached out to him with a unique request a couple of years ago. Turns out, Vece somehow misplaced his Olympic bronze medal and needed the medal from any of his teammates to create a replica.

"An Olympic medal is the dearest achievement in any athlete's career, but I gave it to him without a second thought. For the next five-six months, he approached several artsmiths to create a replica, but unfortunately, none could do it. He eventually returned the medal to me, but to me it feels like unfinished business, and it hurts more now that he is no more," lamented the Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Award winner.

That said, Vece's contribution to Indian hockey and beyond remains unparalleled and will not be diminished by a misplaced Olympic medal. His calm demeanour, magical wrong-footed passes and devotion to Indian sports for over six decades make him the saint of Indian hockey in a true sense.

(From right) Vece Paes with his son Leander, Mahesh Bhupathi and physio Sanjay Singh at the Athens Olympics.
DH FILE PHOTO/ K N SHANTH KUMAR

DILIP TIRKEY
HI President

"It is a sad day for us in Hockey India. The passing of Dr Paes draws curtains on a great era of hockey. The Olympic medal in Munich is a testament to their grit and determination. I had the good fortune of meeting him a few times and I have always been inspired by his passion for sports in general. He was a great advocate of inculcating sporting culture in the country.

Vece with star striker Dhanraj Pillay

Vece (seated, second from left) after St Joseph's Boys' High School won an inter-school hockey tournament.

Nostalagia for main event

PUNE SELECTIONS

Nostalagia, from the stables of Imtiaz Sait and ridden by Antony Raj S, will garner the maximum support in the Teena Katrak Independence Million, the feature event of the races to be run over a distance of mile and a quarter on Independence day. The first race starts at 2 pm.

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2. BK Lagad Salver - 1000M: Esperanza 1, Turn And Burn 2, Cellini 3.
3. Mayor's Trophy - 2000M: Arrived 1, Caradoc 2, Heart 3.
4. Lucky Luciano Trophy - 1600M: Ma Cherie 1, Silver Braid 2, Yuletide 3.
5. Teena Katrak Independence Million - 2000M: Nostalgia 1, Land Of Plenty 2, Black Thunder 3.
6. Thanda Plate - 1000M: Dreamer 1, Lara 2, Foxy 3.
7. Sentosa Cove Plate - 1100M: Kavya 1, Cindrella's Dream 2, Western Star 3.
Day's best: Dreamer. **Jackpot:** 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. **Treble:** 4, 5, 6.

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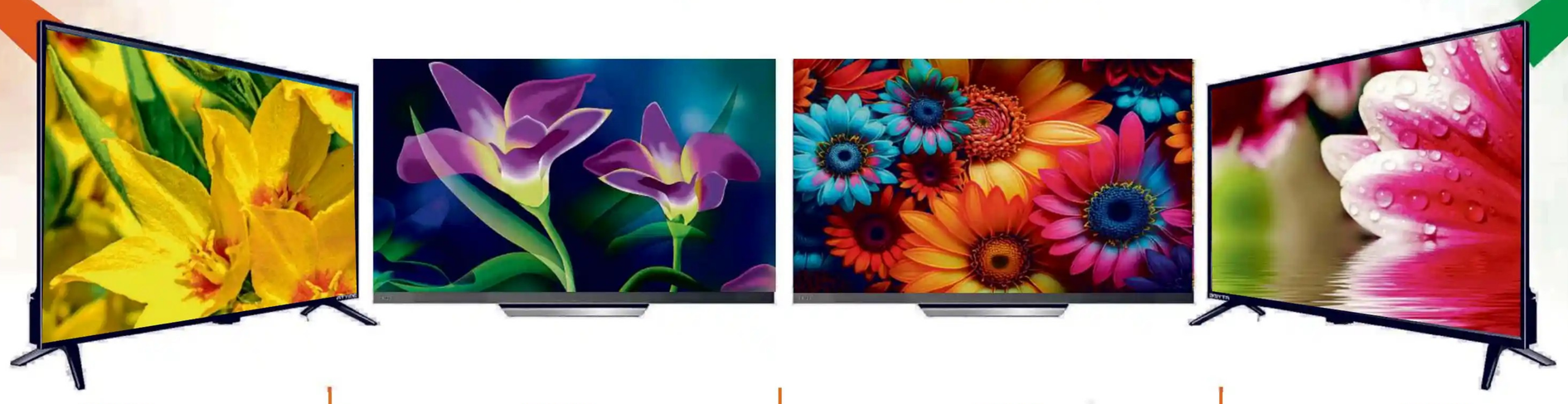

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Chethan stars as Bengaluru blast past Gulbarga

MYSURU, DHNS: Bengaluru Blasters dished out a strong show to down Gulbarga Mystics by five wickets in the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 at the Srikantadatta Narasimharaja Wadiyar Stadium here on Thursday.

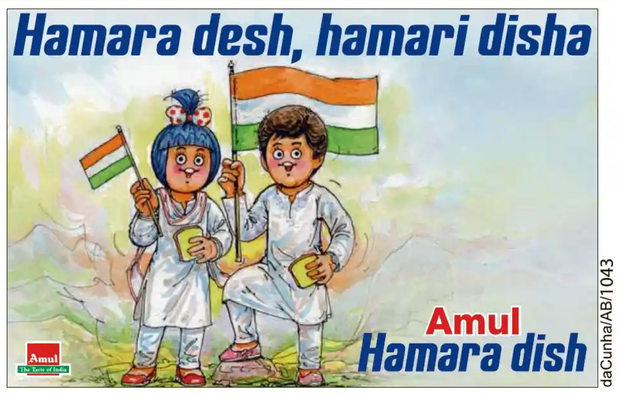
Blasters bowled with precision, striking from the get-go, before a brilliant last-wicket 45-run partnership helped Gulbarga Mystics 112 all out in 19.5 overs. Once the bowlers were done, LR Chethan **(in pic)** took centre stage, hammering an unbeaten 75 to power Blasters to victory in the 15th over.

The Gulbarga Mystics were off to a quick start as Luvnith Sisodia smashed a couple of sixes off the very first over. That stung the Bengaluru Blasters, who roared back with three quick wickets before the end of the Powerplay. Sisodia scored 13 off 9 balls before Vidyadhar Patil castled him, after which Nikin Jose was dismissed for 1 by Naveen MG, and Prajwal Pavan added 2 to the cause before Mohsin Khan had his number.

Mystics were in a spot of bother and were looking to turn things around with R Smaran (12 off 20 balls), who tried to absorb the pressure, but eventually walked back to the hut as Mohsin Khan accounted for him as well.

Brief scores: Gulbarga Mystics: 112 all out in 19.5 overs (Lavish Kaushal 54 n.o.; Mohsin Khan 2-18, Vidyadhar Patil 2-13, Shubhang Hegde 2-10, Rohan Naveen 2-19) lt to Bengaluru Blasters: 113/5 in 14.2 overs (LR Chethan 75 n.o.; Vyshak Vijaykumar 3-19) by 5 wkts.

Mysore Warriors vs Mangaluru Dragons match abandoned due to wet outfield.



Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar felicitated Vijayakumari GK, who won the women's 400M gold at the World Athletics' Continental meet in Bhubaneswar recently. Shivakumar rewarded the Mandya athlete with a cash award of Rs 10 lakh of which Rs 5 lakh were handed over on Thursday while the remaining amount will be paid next year. The gesture comes after Shivakumar read an article in DH that highlighted Vijayakumari's feat.

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2	Last date to apply (Online)	22nd Aug. 2025
3	Entrance Test	6th Sept. 2025
4	Announcement of short-listed candidates	12th Sept. 2025
5	Interview Schedule	16th to 18th Sept. 2025
6	Declaration of the provisional list of selected & wait listed candidates	22th Sept. 2025
7	Admission process for recommended candidates	23rd to 27th Sept. 2025
8	Admission for wait listed candidates	1st to 8th Oct. 2025

Note: All deadlines are defined exactly to be at 5.00 pm on the respective date.

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